

EUROPE

HUMAN RIGHTS

YUGOSLAVIA

Extradition

Charles Hargrove

Aug 13

More than 200 Croat exiles demonstrated yesterday in Cologne against a high court decision that Mr Stipe Bilandzic, the founder of an anti-Tito Croat terrorist organization, could be extradited to Yugoslavia.

He is regarded by the Yugoslavs as one of the most important leaders of the Croat extremists and suspected of participation in the attempt to murder the Yugoslav vice-consul in Düsseldorf two years ago.

Mr Bilandzic, who is 39, is serving a sentence for his part in the attack on the Yugoslav trade mission in Bonn in 1962. The final decision on the extradition case rests with the Federal Government.

Mr Bilandzic's counsel has already applied to the Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe for a stay of execution. The case might also be taken up with the Human Rights Court in Strasbourg.

The Cologne court's decision has revived speculation of a possible agreement between the West German and Yugoslav governments over an exchange of four Germans wanted for terrorist activities and arrested in Zagreb in May, for eight Croat exiles wanted by Belgrade.

Four of them have criminal records. Besides Mr Bilandzic, two are serving sentences for the attempt on the Yugoslav vice-consul, a third was convicted of murder of a Yugoslav diplomat in Stuttgart. Four have not been charged or detained.

Although there has never been officially any question of such an exchange, the matter was discussed at a meeting at Bad Reichenhain, in Bavaria, on Friday between Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the West German Foreign Minister, and Mr Josip Vrhovc, his Yugoslav colleague.

Mr Vrhovc expressed satisfaction over the Cologne court decision, and made it clear that the extradition of the four wanted Germans was closely linked to that of the Croat exiles. He also apparently urged the Federal Government to take more effective action against Croat terrorism in West Germany.

The Belgrade newspaper *Politika* yesterday criticized conservative circles in the Federal Republic for bringing pressure to bear on German courts and not the Federal Government against the extradition of Croat terrorists.

It was referring to two other court decisions earlier last week, which went counter to the Cologne ruling. A Frankfurt court dismissed the case against two Croats whose extradition was sought by Yugoslavia.

A court in Karlsruhe dismissed a case against Mr Ilija Papac, a Croat detained at Stammheim prison for two months, on charges of setting up an underground organization and of participation in the bomb attack in Bonn, 1977, and on the *Hellas Express*.

Immediately after the Cologne court ruling, Croat exiles called a press conference at which two wiretappers were produced who claimed that the Yugoslav secret police had instructed them to murder Mr Bilandzic. One, a German, said he had been promised DM60,000 (£15,000) to do it.

From Our Own Correspondent

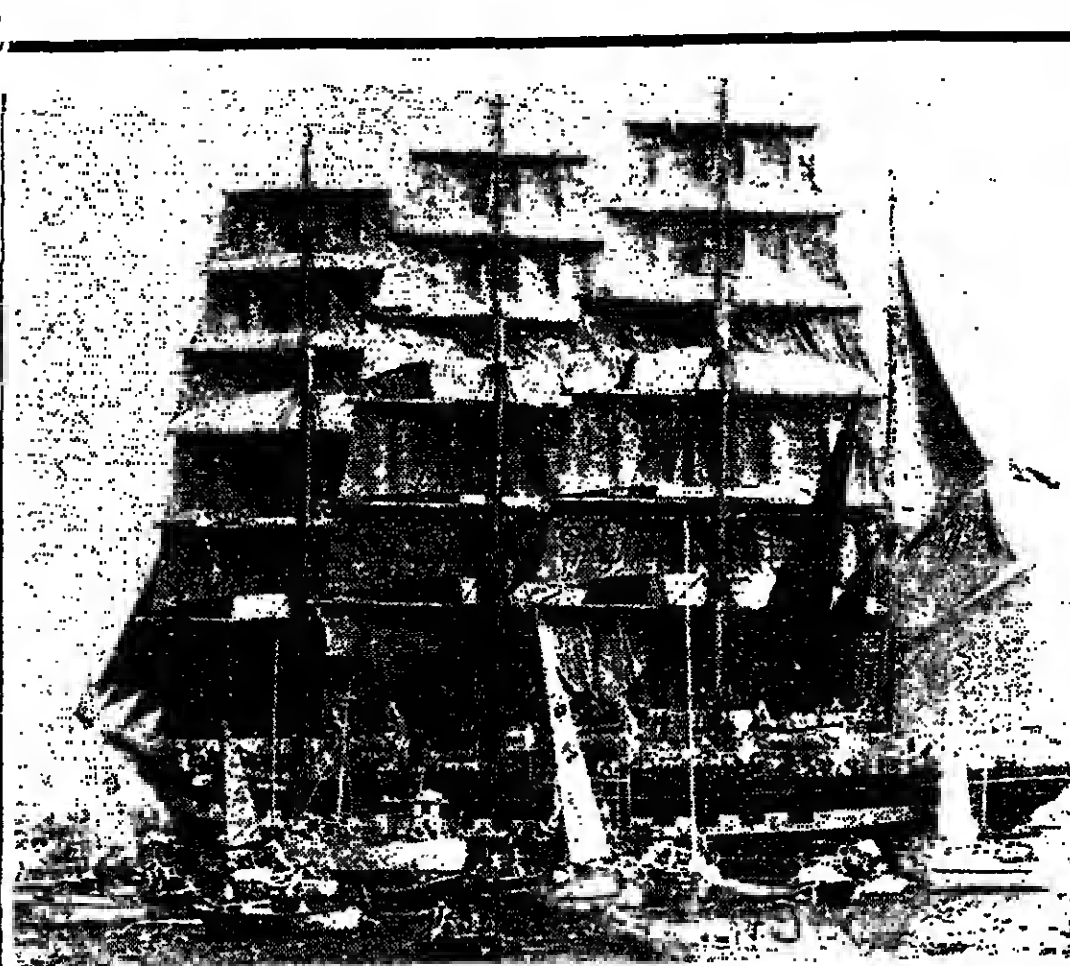
Bonn, Aug 13

It has long been commonplace among foreigners resident in this country that there is a self-appointed traffic policeman lurking in every German driver. Offences, deliberate or otherwise, against the highway code will inevitably provoke his clearly expressed reproaches—although there are limits to the form this is allowed to take.

The celebrated *Vogelzeichen* or "bird-sign", which consists of casting doubts on the sanity of a fellow driver by pointing repeatedly to one's forehead with a forefinger, was many years ago ruled by a court to constitute unlawful provocation.

A further check on the urge of German drivers to give lessons to their less law-abiding fellows was set by a ruling just announced by the Supreme Court of Schleswig-Holstein.

It confirmed a sentence by a lower court on a driver who



Surrounded by sightseers the Christian Radich, a Norwegian auxiliary merchant training ship, in full sail off Göteborg, during the Tall Ships race from Great Yarmouth to Oslo now taking place.

US boycotts talks on racialism

From Our Correspondent

Geneva, Aug 13

Nearly a hundred countries are expected to take part in a two-week United Nations world conference to combat racism and racial discrimination, opening tomorrow at the Palais des Nations here.

Many national liberation movements and non-governmental bodies will attend as observers. Mainly because of the presence of a delegation from the Palestine Liberation Organization, security measures will be in force, with members of the public subject to a thorough identity check.

The conference is regarded by the United Nations as a highlight of the decade for action against racialism which began in December 1973 on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Foreign ministers present will include those of Cuba, Liberia and Sri Lanka.

There will also be prominent absentees, apart from South Africa. In conformity with con-

gressional decision, the United States will not be represented. This is a consequence of the 1975 decision of the United Nations General Assembly equating Zionism with racism. The United States said then that it would not take part in the programme initiated in connexion with the anti-racism decade. Israel, too, will not be attending.

Under the agenda, three main tasks face the conference. It will review progress made in combating racialism and apartheid; evaluate the effectiveness of methods employed for this purpose; and try to come up with specific proposals for action towards the designated goals of the decade.

It will also consider action to combat discriminatory measures against immigrant workers and to protect the human rights of national, ethnic and other minorities.

Roots of racialism in unsuspected areas are indicated by reports from governments. Norway, for example, has cited

an instance last year in which a man was fined and sentenced to two months in prison for painting slogans on walls in Oslo reading: "Throw out this light-brown".

A special procedure on applications was devised for non-governmental bodies, with the aim apparently of ensuring that any regarded as pro-Zionist would be excluded.

This has had the effect of keeping out the Geneva-based International University Extension Fund which is a main supporter of nationalist movements in southern Africa.

Another effect is the exclusion of the World Council of Churches Committee for International Affairs, though the council itself can attend. Representatives of non-governmental organizations will not be entitled to speak. They may submit written declarations which will be scrutinized by the secretariat to ensure that there is no covert suggestion that Zionism is not really racialism.

Socialists refuse to join Lisbon Cabinet

From Jose Sherkiff

Lisbon, Aug 13

Dr Mario Soares, the former Prime Minister, has ruled out Socialist participation, even on an individual basis, in any form of presidential government.

In a radio interview he spoke of backroom intrigue against his own two constitutional governments, and said that the Portuguese people did not wish for a return to the conditions prevailing before the 1974 revolution which overthrew the Salazar regime.

Dr Soares said he was not hostile to Senator Alfredo Nobre da Costa, the Prime Minister designate chosen by President Eanes, so long as he carried out existing policies; but the Socialists had "an enthusiasm for the presidentialist solution". He praised Senator

Nobre da Costa for his activity as Minister of Industry in his own government.

Expressing appreciation of President Eanes, Dr Soares said that the Socialists would continue to back the President if he took the right decisions. He said he did not believe in the danger of a military coup on the Chilean model. He regarded threats from the right as bluff.

There were neither national nor international conditions for a return to dictatorship in Portugal, Dr Soares denied allegations that he aimed at being elected President of the Republic himself.

Senator Nobre da Costa, after spending a day with his family on his holiday in the Algarve, is returning to Lisbon tomorrow to see Dr Soares and continue work on forming his Cabinet.

'Policeman' in the motorist falls foul of the law

From Our Own Correspondent

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Clashes in Frankfurt after rival marches

Frankfurt, Aug 13—About 500 extreme right-wing demonstrators clashed with left-wing groups today after marches through Frankfurt marking the seventeenth anniversary of the Berlin Wall.

A German photographer with the American news agency Associated Press was seriously injured when he was hit on the head by a flying stone.

Police said 40 people had been detained and later released. The right-wingers, supporters of the National Democratic Party (NPD), clashed with the leftists at the end of two separate marches through the city.

The marches had earlier been banned by the Burgomaster of Frankfurt after similar clashes in June in which 70 people were injured. But an administrative court ruled last week that the marches could take place provided the demonstrators remained 1,000 yards apart.—Reuters

Actress is moved to open jail

From Harry Dehelius

Madrid, Aug 13

The only woman member of the Els Joglars mime troupe imprisoned for two years for "insulting the armed forces" in a play last December, is being allowed to leave her prison today and work as a film actress, it was reported here today.

Senorita Miriam de Maeztu, one of the four jailed members of the mime troupe, has been transferred to an open prison at the Yescas women's prison in Madrid. She is permitted to leave it every day from 9 am to 9 pm, and to be absent every weekend.

Recently, when a new Spanish ambassador presented his credentials to President Carter in Washington, a group of American mime actors in costumes and grease paint picketed the embassy in a demand for freedom for Els Joglars.

The play in question *La Torna*, annoyed army officers because, in the words of the military prosecutor at the trial, in the script, the military tribunal is portrayed as acting out of opportunistic and political motives, to the extent that it does not hesitate to condemn a man to death.

Severed hand is grafted on arm

Paris, Aug 13—A man's hand, cut off during a fight, was grafted back on to his arm today.

M Maurice Bottin, aged 24, was dining with friends in Le Havre when five men broke in, saying they had come to avenge a woman. One chopped off Mr Bottin's hand with a machete.

Mr Bottin's friends tied a tourniquet round his arm and placed the severed hand in ice before taking him to hospital.—Reuters

Baron beset by debts loads his shotgun to make a last stand at his castle

From Ian Murray

Paris, Aug 13

Albert Gaston Ferdinand Four is heir to a proud French title. Napoleon created his ancestor a baron and the family has been known and respected around Limoux, near Carcassonne, since the seventeenth century.

Its estates produce some of the finest sparkling wine in the area and the old castle, the Tour de la Badue, is a home befitting such a family.

Anyone visiting the 46-year-old baron today has to telephone for an appointment. A cardboard notice at the edge of the estate warns unexpected visitors that they are liable to be shot.

The police are due to go to see him on Wednesday. He intends ordering them to leave their guns at the door. Baron Four is very determined.

His problems began in 1962 when he gave up his job in a tanker fleet company to go into the export-import business for himself. Things never prospered and last year he was forced into liquidation by a creditor.

The baron's estate had been valued two years before at 960,000 francs (£120,000), but he delayed the sale. Then the courts moved in and forced an auction.

The director of the local wine cooperative put in the top bid of 610,000 francs and as the local authority had expressed an interest a second sale was organized. This time the wine cooperative bid 680,000 francs and the town hall expressed no interest. The baron claims the

town's intervention frightened away potential buyers.

The amount now offered is insufficient to cover all the baron's debts. For that he needs 1,200,000 francs, which is, he claims, the true value of the property.

He has, accordingly, started legal proceedings against the courts for impeding the proper sale of the estates and has meanwhile barricaded himself into the empty castle, all the furniture having already been sold.

Meanwhile on the town council the Socialist mayor is under attack from his deputy, a Left Radical, who argues that the town should have bought the estate.

OVERSEAS

Bishop Muzorewa wins vote of confidence from party and orders expulsion of his critics

Salisbury, Aug 13—Bishop

Abel Muzorewa, one of the black leaders in the Rhodesian transitional government, today quashed attacks on his leadership of the United African National Council (UANC) and won a resounding vote of confidence from provincial delegates of the party.

Four senior local party officials who had criticized the bishop as politically inept were expelled from their party together with Mr Byron Howe, a former Co-Minister of Law and Order who was dismissed from the Government in April, and Mr Pius Murozbe, chairman of the London branch of the UANC.

A meeting of 203 delegates also rejected the calling of an all-party conference to discuss the future of Rhodesia, as proposed by Britain and the United States.

The delegates unanimously passed a motion of confidence in Bishop Muzorewa, asking

him to speak for the party and the country as he saw fit. UANC sources said a rally the bishop addressed yesterday and attended by armed men and women he described as guerrillas, had probably helped him to win the confidence vote.

The *Sunday Mail* today carried a front-page picture of Bishop Muzorewa at the UANC rally in the Musana tribal area. He was shown with people described by the newspaper as guerrillas of Mr Robert Mugabe's faction of the Patriotic Front who had switched their allegiance to the transitional Government.

General Peter Walls, commander of the Rhodesian armed forces, has said the ceasefire called by the transitional Government is working in some places, and that guerrillas and security forces are pulling out of the country together.

But yesterday's rally was the first time guerrillas were said to have attended a meeting held by a Government leader.

Bishop Muzorewa had been expected to use the reports of guerrilla defections to strengthen his position in the UANC against his critics.

The UANC sources said yesterday's rally provided evidence that the ceasefire efforts were beginning to work and that the bishop and the UANC commanded majority support in the tribal trust lands.

Bishop Muzorewa said the rally was the most important and historic he had ever attended. "It is the very first rally where both civilians and our heroic children, nationalist guerrillas, are present, officially as part of the security forces and in charge of law and order," he said.

Rally denial: Mr Josiah Chinamanda, Mr Joshua Nkomo's top aide, said tonight that the armed blacks at the Muzorewa rally were not guerrillas, but local youths recruited into private armies to back official claims that the ceasefire is working.—Reuters

Bigger role by Cuba in Eritrea

Khartoum, Aug 13—Eritrean

play against the forces preparing for an armed pincer attack against the key Eritrean town of Keren. Western intelligence sources said here today.

They added that Cuban troops, until now restricted to support roles, appeared to have been drawn deeper into the fighting as the government forces prepared for a crucial clash with the Eritrean guerrillas.

The sources believed Cuban troops would back up Soviet equipped mechanized units advancing north-west from the provincial capital of Asmara, and east from the town of Agordat, which fell to government troops last Thursday.

Cuban pilots were already flying Soviet-made MIG-21 and Z-23 aircraft attacking guerrilla positions in the rugged mountains and passes swamped by weeks of heavy rain.

The sources said the assault on Keren would be the most highly mechanized attack in the two-month offensive.

Agordat was the last town held by the Eritrean Liberation Front (ELF), which took the town of the offensive and which informed sources say is now battered and demoralized after a string of defeats.

Keren is held by the other guerrilla movement, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF), which still controls several towns in the north of the province and along the main road from Asmara to the Red Sea port of Massawa, 72 miles away down the mountains.

Keren is in the heart of EPLF territory and its spokesmen are confident they can stave off the impending two-pronged attack. They say the steep mountainous terrain is far more suited to their style of fighting.—Reuters

Confusion on Pretoria position over Namibia

From Roy Kennedy

Windhoek, Aug 13

Discussions between the United Nations factfinding mission in South-West Africa (Namibia) and the South African Administrator-General's office resumed today, but in an uneasy atmosphere.

After his talks on Friday with Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, the Administrator-General of the territory, Mr Justice Marthinus Steyn, must apparently back down on his statement last week that the December 31 target for independence was a mandatory element in the agreement so far, not capable of variation.

Mr Justice Steyn emerged from his talks with Mr Vorster to say the deadline date was still a flexible point.

The United Nations mission, led by Mr Max Abrahams, will probably accede to the South African position and report that although the latter would prefer the December 31 deadline, they are likely to agree to leeway.

It would appear that Mr Justice Steyn has dropped a diplomatic dagger by insisting on the December 31 deadline and also by saying that the registration of voters now going on could not be restarted under United Nations supervision.

Heavy battle: South African troops and Swagat guerrillas fought a "heavy battle" in northern Namibia "in the past 24 hours", leaving three South Africans and five guerrillas dead, the military command in Windhoek reported today.—AP

Moscow return indicated in Onassis comment

From Our Correspondent

Athens, Aug 13

The former Miss Christina Onassis said in an interview published today that she intends to return to Moscow, where she was married on August 1 to Mr Sergei Kaulov, a former Soviet shipping official.

The newspaper *Acropolis* quoted her in the first interview she gave since she abandoned her honeymoon plans and arrived in Greece alone nine days ago, as saying: "I tell you what, the newspapers are writing in inaccurate. I shall return to Moscow."

She has been staying at her aunt's villa at Glyfada, a seaside suburb of Athens. Callers at the villa were told today that she was still there. Last week she made a one-day trip to London on a leased jet.

Locust swarm in Ethiopia covers 160 square mile

From Our Correspondent

Nairobi, Aug 13

A swarm of locusts covering 160 square miles has been reported in the north of Addis Ababa, Mr Adferis Belenhu, the Director-General of the Desert Locust Control Organization of Eastern Africa, disclosed here this weekend.

This is a new swarm, and its vast size, in a difficult mountainous area, illustrates the serious problems being encountered in the fight to head off a serious locust invasion of many African and Asian countries.

Heavy rain and the effect of the wars in the Horn of Africa, which have hampered normal observation and control operations, have helped to

Prospect of Ja fade for Rhodesia talks

From Lawrence Pint

Lusaka, Aug 13

Prospects for a cor all-party conference attempt to settle the Rhodesian problem a better now than they months ago, accord main parties here the negotiations.

The immediate the British Foreign proposal for another meeting between representatives of Mr I government and the nationalist groups, three black signa internal settlement. Muzorewa, the Rev Skole and Chief Chinamanda.

Diplomatic sources Muzorewa "at against" such a confrontation with militant counterparts the country, and it able just how much would have to gain meeting.

Being to the table the internal le was virtually conceded now ailing Salist was a failure.

For Mr Sinhole would be tantamount suicide since he succeeded in guerrillas in Mozambique their arms strated massive su the country.

But even if th based nationalists take their chance, bargaining table is increasingly doubt the guerrilla lead sent to talk or serious.

The bush war is t in favour of the officials of both th Mugabe wing of Front are not at see much incentive with them, make when we have the will win the wa months? "asked o ing official of Zapu wing of the

Seven victims of Morocco coach crash named

Rabat, Aug 13—The seven

tourists who were killed when their coach crashed into a ravine in South Morocco have been identified.

The dead were named as Isabel Heron, aged 39, from Edinburgh; Marie Souger, aged 36, from Middlesbrough; Anna Beaumont, aged 23, from Coleraine, Northern Ireland; Susan Jenkins, aged 28, from Plymouth; Mary O'Hara, aged 27, from Dublin; Ingrid Jensen, aged 27, from Rotterdam; and Anne Nasser, aged 31, from Kiel, West Germany.

The crash occurred on Thursday when the coach swerved to avoid a rock. The edge of the road crumpled and the coach plunged into the ravine.—UPI

Mrs Gandhi's action enrages MPs

From Richard Wigg

Delhi, Aug 13

The Congress followers of Mrs Indira Gandhi unleashed unruly scenes in the Indian Parliament yesterday after the party withdrew its proposal for a commission of inquiry into allegations of corruption against Mr Kanti Desai, the Prime Minister's son.

Mrs Gandhi's Congress (Indira) Party staged a pandemonium during which Mr K. S. Hegde, the Speaker, was unable to make his authority felt for 20 minutes. The supporters of Mrs Gandhi took violent objection when Janata MPs sought to introduce a resolution against the Congress member who had wasted their day.

The climax came when Mr C. M. Stephen, Leader of the Opposition, as the head of 75 Congress (Indira) members, marched up to the Speaker's podium, signalling some of his supporters to follow. Ignoring the Speaker's admonitions, he shouted above the din they would not permit the reprimand motion.

After the Congress men had withdrawn, Mr Hegde accepted the Congress man's right to withdraw a motion but partly remarked the Lok Sabha (Lower House) rules needed to be amended to frustrate such time-wasting technical "manoeuvres".

Both Janata and Congress men of the group opposed to Mrs Gandhi complained these manoeuvres had been ordered from outside by their "evil spirit", as one of them put it—the former Prime Minister.

The 60 so of Mr Charan Singh's men who talked on Thursday of voting "according to conscience" had lined up with more than 200 other Janata MPs who approved the three-line party whip for the corruption debate.

Mrs Gandhi's party wants to vote all to maintain intact the motion, which caused the defeat of the Government in the Upper House on Thursday. This requires the Government to obtain the recommendations of a 15-man Parliamentary group on going into the allegations against the Premier's son.

For the moment only Mr Raj Narain, the former Health Minister dismissed with Mr Singh, continues the public pressure. He is threatening to make further allegations against Mr Desai's son, in addition to the 32 graft and abuse of position allegations claimed by the Congress (Indira) Party on Thursday.

If the Prime Minister does not act, he said yesterday, he will take the matter to party forums. Mr Narain is a well-known trouble maker, but Mr Desai's position remains none the less both unenviable and difficult.

The government is now saying the Upper House resolution is not mandatory, unlike one from the Lok Sabha. But seeing the 15-man commission would reflect the Opposition strength, the possibilities for embarrassing the Government are obvious.

No one in Delhi believes the Congress (Indira) is either

Awami League split over party system

Dacca, Aug 13—Bangladesh's

biggest political party, the Awami League, has split in two over the issue of one-party government here.

Mr Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, a former minister and spokesman for the breakaway faction, said yesterday that his group was the "real and original Awami League". He accused the present leadership of deviationism in supporting a one-party system and presidential form of government.

He brushed aside any possibility that his group might ally itself with President Zia ur Rahman in the near future.—Agence France-Press

In brief

Death sentence on train killer

Moscow, Aug 13—A who shot dead a passing an attempted robbery in urban train has been sent to death. Soviet papers reported today.

It named the man as V. A. K. a 34-year-old who shot in the roof of the near Kulyshyev on the telling passengers to band their money. A passenger tried to seize the gun was dead.

Killers' petition

Nicosia, Aug 13—The request of Cyprus on Wednesday bear a petition delay the execution of Arabs sentenced to death killing Mr Yusuf Sebail Egyptian editor, from Aug 13 to August 30 to enable Kyprian to consider appeal.

Hearst wedding plan

Los Angeles, Aug 13—Aricia Hearst, serving a year sentence for robbing bank with her. Sybil, a 34-year-old, is planning to marry one of former police bodyguard lawyer who visited her here.

Balloon on course

St John's Newfoundland, 13—Three Americans are the first balloon across the Atlantic were sighted here heading over open Europe. They took off from Presque Isle, Maine, on Friday.

Defiant police

Memphis, Tennessee, Aug 13—Striking city police ignored the pleas of their president last night and to defy a court injunction ordering them to return to work midnight or quit.

Chess delay

Baguio, Philippines, Aug 13—The twelfth world chess game between Anatoly Karpov and Viktor Korchnoi, postponed yesterday, will place on Tuesday. The stands at one game each.

President better

Cape Town, Aug 13—condition of President Dicks, of South Africa, aged who suffered a serious attack yesterday, improved considerably during the night medical bulletin said.

RSEAS

China and Japan sign peace and friendship treaty in face of riot fury over hegemony clause

Hazelhurst
Aug 13—Japan and China have signed a peace and friendship treaty in a move to herald a new era of geopolitical equilibrium in the region. The treaty was formally signed at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing last night by Japanese Prime Minister Tanaka Kakuei and Chinese Premier Hua Guofeng.

The treaty, which is the first since 1949, is also declared that the two countries will seek to establish a new relationship of peace and friendship.

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100 Chinese seized in Hanoi hotel raid

Peking, Aug 13.—China said today that more than 100 Chinese were seized in a hotel raid in Hanoi on Friday night and taken to an unknown destination.

The New China news agency said that tear-gas and water hoses were used in the raid on Friday night and called it the "latest act of violence committed by the Vietnamese authorities."

The Vietnam News Agency said later that the Chinese, who were seized in a hotel in Hanoi, were taken to a military camp and "wounded by beating Vietnamese personnel on duty" (see below).

Western diplomats in Peking said the incident could affect the talks held in Hanoi between foreign ministers of the two countries, on the position of the Chinese in Vietnam.

Both sides agree that three incidents involving Vietnamese Chinese had occurred in the past two weeks. The first two occurred at border checkpoints but the latest was in Hanoi itself.

The Chinese Foreign Ministry said that China had said that many of those involved already had permission to enter China.

By contrast, the border incidents had involved Chinese without documents who were stranded at the frontier.

China closed its border on July 12 to all except people with entry certificates issued by the Chinese Embassy in Hanoi and Vietnamese exit visas.

A Hanoi correspondent of the Chinese news agency reported that all windows and doors in the two-story hotel were broken in the incident. The trouble began on Friday night and ended just before dawn yesterday.

More than 100 Chinese sleeping in the hotel were taken to the railway station where they were held for several days before being released.

The correspondent added that a number of Chinese were injured and the Chinese government had demanded that the Vietnamese government should pay compensation for their personal belongings and taken away to some unknown place.

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Sir Ian Gilmour
Crusading for the uncodifiable

He is uncommonly tall, and slim, with the careless elegance of a man who does not have to prove that he goes to a good tailor. He is a good-looking man, with a large nose, a large mouth, and a large head. He is a man of letters, a man of letters, a man of letters.

There is not, there never was, a principle of government under Heaven that does not, in the very pursuit of the good it proposes, naturally and inevitably lead into some inconvenience which makes it absolutely necessary to counteract and weaken the application of the first principle itself and to abandon something of the extent of the advantage proposed by it in order to prevent all the inconveniences which have arisen for the instrument for all the good you had in view.

So Conservatism is not codifiable. Equally it is not just practice. It is more a series of themes, which at different times have to be worked out with different emphasis, always as a national party, standing for freedom, patriotism, authority and security. It is never a system. All the great Conservative writers have stressed the importance of circumstance. Under Conservatism it may be right to favour free trade. According to other circumstances it may be right to favour protection. Under Liberalism, free trade is always right. That seems to me to be wrong.

British Conservatism, because of its different origins, is different from all others. It is closely bound up with the history of this country and closely bound up with the history and the actions of the Tory Party, although it is emphatically not just a practice of the Tory Party, because it has a much wider basis. It is not a crusading creed. Conservatism does depend on any given moment on the circumstances, by which I mean on its opponents, public opinion and what is going on elsewhere in the world. Therefore, paradoxically, although Conservatism is very strongly adverse to sudden change, it is actually, in a sense, the most changing of all the possible political beliefs.

When people talk about middle ground or common ground they are doing what Palmerston criticized, which is making metaphors as though they were real things. What one means or what is meant is the uncodifiable voter. Almost by definition there are a lot of uncodifiable voters all the time. Indeed the number has grown considerably, because the psychology of evidence seems to indicate that there are fewer and fewer people who are committed for all time to one party. They fluctuate between all parties or abstain.

The uncodifiable voter is looking for a series of policies not promising too much, because in the present state of the country big promises are irresponsible, but are based on common sense and not on party dogma. They are fed up with party dogma.

I don't think that we should be particularly going for the disenchanted Liberal vote because it's impossible to categorize or define it. I have seen what the Liberal Party stands for. There are some genuine zealots who vote Liberal because they feel they are Liberals, but that's only a small minority. The rest are like to impose solutions on its allies and the chiefs of staff if there were good arguments coming from them.

Apart from anything else it may take up to 15 years from the conception of a weapon system and it actually coming into service. Everything is immensely complex and can only be done after enormous consultation. Not only do you have the constraint that you

state power is needed to combat syndicalism and the strength of the unions. Where does Sir Ian stand? "Well, certainly, the Shadow Cabinet wants greater economic freedom and I think it is perfectly possible to hold that view without particularly being either Hayekian or a Friedmanite. There is much greater state interference, state control and state ownership in this country than amongst our competitors in West Europe, America, Canada or elsewhere. It puts us at a very considerable disadvantage. I am not at all averse to some state interference. Indeed I think it is very difficult for any Conservative to be averse to any state interference. It has certainly gone too far. People are fed up with it. The task therefore is to restore the authority of the state while clipping its powers, so that it doesn't interfere so much, but when it does act it is more likely to be obeyed and to be respected.

"I am not a liberal in the sense of believing that the least a state does the better. I believe that would not work and that liberalism of that sort would not even lead to economic liberalism. I think it would be overthrown. You have to engage people's loyalties to the state. A totally inactive state would not engage their loyalties, because they would say 'the state doesn't care anything about me, why should I care much about the state?' There is no contradiction at all between the Tory emphasis on political freedom and at the same time emphasizing that this does not mean complete economic freedom. The Tories have nearly always believed that there is a role for the state to play in the economy, and that to my mind is certainly true today."

Defence has been his main responsibility in and out of office. He has accused the Labour Party of lopping £10,000 off expenditure on the armed forces during its period of office, involving 150,000 lost jobs in the civilian sector. In what manner and to what extent would a Conservative government restore this short fall?

"It's more jobs lost even than that. Defence costs have cost 170,000 jobs so far, and, according to government figures, early next year will cost something like 200,000. That is one objection to what they are doing, but our primary objection is that they have gravely damaged the armed forces and gravely impaired the defences of this country."

"Having been in the Ministry of Defence all through the last Government, I am very much aware that I don't know as much now as I did then. I have a very good general idea of what's going on, from all sorts of sources in this country and abroad, but the actual details you are not in possession of in the same way as when you have a large bureaucracy behind you. Therefore, while it is perfectly obvious to anybody who studies defence, or even, those who don't, that grave damage is being done, it is, I think, wrong for an outsider to say exactly how you are going to put it right."

"There are several reasons why an Opposition can't produce a detailed and costed defence policy. First, this can only be done in conjunction with our allies, chiefs of staff, chief scientists and the civil servants, also with industry. No Conservative Secretary of State would like to impose solutions on its allies and the chiefs of staff if there were good arguments coming from them."

"Apart from anything else it may take up to 15 years from the conception of a weapon system and it actually coming into service. Everything is immensely complex and can only be done after enormous consultation. Not only do you have the constraint that you

don't know exactly at this stage how much money you'll have to spend in the first Conservative year. You also have the constraint that you don't know how much money you'll have to spend, because the industry has been run down."

"In the old days you could buy another 10,000 Lee-Enfield rifles and thereby considerably increase the strength of your armed forces. Nowadays it is so sophisticated and so difficult that it has to be done over the long term. We are irretrievably committed to strengthening our defences but it would be quite wrong to give exact figures. The Labour Party did that and it has ended up disastrously."

"We are committed to restoring comparability of forces next year. That is quantifiable and in my view essential because even this Government's standard the most disastrous thing they've done is to treat the forces so badly. They have driven out large numbers of people who are quite irreplaceable and who have trained at great expense. It will cost an enormous amount of money to train their successors and it will take a long time to recover from the damage that's been done."

How would he respond to the Soviet/Cuban incursion in Africa? Would he be prepared to send British military advisers to certain states as a deterrent? "I would have to see the facts. How satisfied is it that Britain could mount a rescue operation with an airborne regiment if a situation analogous to the Shaba invasion threatened our own nationalities?"

"I'd be very much in favour of genuine British advisers in these places, but if it is meant by 'advisers' having large numbers of people who are doing a good deal more than advising, or actually fighting, I would have strong reservations. Our forces at the moment have been so run down there are no uncommitted reserves at all. Our contribution in Germany is less than it should be because of our Northern Ireland situation. The Labour Government has run down our numbers so much that there is very little to spare to have troops dotted around Africa."

"My preference certainly, except in extreme emergencies, would be to try to find African allies to try to find African allies to try to find African allies. I would like to see the Cubans go. I also believe that Nato has got to stop being obsessed by the central front or even by the flanks. We have to avoid having a Maginot line mentality, particularly as we haven't got a Maginot line. We have got to look beyond the boundaries of Nato, with the Russian capability of being able to carry troops almost anywhere in the world and having this very powerful maritime capability as well."

It is silly for Nato just to sit in Europe and not look at what is happening elsewhere. It is difficult for Nato to act outside these boundaries because of the complex attitude of certain states in it, but ad hoc grouping of allies is not a solution. Quite apart from anything else, if the Russians and the Cubans go on winning, a number of African leaders will draw their own conclusions that this is the winning side."

"We must certainly have people who are capable of mounting a rescue operation if that is necessary. There may be some people who could be flown out, but this is something that we shall certainly seek to rectify or improve. Any Conservative Secretary of State would make it his immediate business to see that this country could perform that operation. We obviously hope that it would not be necessary, but if you are going to have a Maginot line capability it is something that we should be capable of doing."

His father and grandfather owned land, most of which has been sold, but the baronetcy remains. He has a house in London, an old-fashioned Tory and a member of the XVIII and early XIX century Whig territorial magnates who felt it their bounden duty to bring liberal principles to public affairs. His brother is a stockbroker and Sir Ian abjures all these connections.

"I've never been tempted by the City. I'm not quite sure why not. Probably because I wouldn't be any good there. After the law I went into journalism and bought The Spectator more or less by chance. If you're extremely interested in public affairs, which you are likely to be as a journalist, after a bit you are likely to find that instead of criticizing everybody else you want to try to do something about it yourself. At least that is what I thought. It probably runs a naive view, but that is in fact what happened."

"It would be impertinent to claim that I felt it my bounden duty. I am aware I make very little difference anyway whether I am involved or not. It was Ian McLeod who said 'instead of criticizing us all the whole time why don't you come in and do something about it.' That seemed to me to be a reasonable view. I was only doubtful if anybody would let me in to do something about it, which very generously they did. That's really why I am in. I don't claim that I am going to produce any great benefits for anybody but I try to do the best I can."

Brian Connell

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Peking's global policy

points on many fronts. China has fallen out with both Vietnam and Albania, and its influence in Africa has been on the wane ever since the beginning of the Soviet-Cuban initiative there.

The conclusion of the Japanese treaty, which was signed last night, is the last moment because of differences of interpretation has been a big boost for China's global policy. This is one reason why it has been the target of such angry criticism from Moscow.

The certainty of increased trade with Japan is only one reason why China's leaders are delighted with the treaty. They have succeeded in making their point that both countries should oppose "hegemony" in east Asia—an expression which China uses mainly to attack the United States.

The reluctance of the Japanese to agree to wording which hinted at the Soviet Union as a power in search of "hegemony" has been round by an article which says that the treaty "shall not affect the position of either contracting party regarding its relations with third countries."

Despite Japanese misgivings senior Chinese officials are understood to be convinced that Moscow's animosity at the wording of the treaty will have no serious practical results. The Soviet Union is still interested in obtaining Japanese investment to develop eastern Siberia, and its attitude towards Japan is already inflexible.

The real importance of the treaty lies not in any specific obligations it puts on either country, so much as in its symbolic significance. The number of Japanese warships in the Pacific has been reduced to a minimum, and the Japanese Government, which will look to a new era of friendship and cooperation with Tokyo.

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Chou En-lai sought US aid in 1949

Washington, Aug 13.—Chou En-lai, the late Chinese Prime Minister, made a secret attempt to obtain economic aid from the United States just before the communists took full power over China in 1949.

This was disclosed yesterday when the United States published some of its most sensitive documents relating to the communist takeover.

The documents, which have been held up for many years by American supporters of the Chinese Nationalist administration, which the documents describe as corrupt and incompetent in the final months before it escaped to Taiwan.

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Albanian rift fuels Soviet warning of 'warmongering'

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By John Woodcock
Cricket Correspondent

Saturday's scores

Yorkshire v Sussex

Glamorgan v Notts

Packer releases Pakistanis

Worcester v. Kent

Lancashire v Surrey

By Richard Streeton

Hayes was in superb form and hit two fours and one six in an over from Pocock. He was unbeaten with 42 at the close, having put on 68 with Lloyd in eight

Northants v Somerset

with seven wickets and nearly
six overs to spare.

Racing

1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 26

By Michael Phillips
Racing Correspondent

John Reid: has ridden He de Bourbon beautifully.

Commonwealth Games

Gold medals are spur for Prague



The winner and new 1500 metres champion: David Moorcroft just beats Filbert Bayi.

His winning time of 3 minutes, 35.48 seconds was less than a second outside Steven Overt's United Kingdom record, and now he will join Overt and Robson, who were edged out by Bayi for the silver medal here by just a hundredth of a second, in Britain's team for the European championship in Prague, where he thought might have been useful to be considered only a bronze medal winner, moves to third place on the British all-time ranking list with his time of 3 minutes, 35.50 seconds. Frank Clement also of Scotland, is now fourth with his time of 3 minutes, 35.56 seconds.

Clement once again showed a fine turn of speed at the end of the race and had started his sprint earlier than might have been expected. But, as Moorcroft said, "He didn't, though, did he?"

Bayi said after the race that he was concentrating on the 5,000 metres for the Moscow Olympics, although he would not abandon the 1,500 metres entirely. Of John Walker, the New Zealand

Olympic champion, who missed this race because of injury, he said: "I think the time has come for people to forget about a Bayi versus Walker clash. There are a lot of good young runners coming through, as we saw today, and when we line up now there are 12 runners, not just Walker and Bayi."

The women's 1,500 metres race also went in England. Mary Stewart and Christine Bennett both broke the Games record in taking the gold and silver medals.

Keith Connor achieved new distinction when he won the triple jump with a distance of 50.55m, and had a back-up jump of 50.71m. Both were well in excess of the 10-year-old Commonwealth record, but marginally wind-assisted. But they put Connor among the best of the world's triple jumpers—a particularly important factor as he prepares for Prague.

Connor, who will stand as the 4 x 100 metres relay team, finished the race in 44.6 seconds to snatch an unavailing victory.

The English men's 4 x 100 metres relay team made relatively

Wells has been one of the heroes of the Games. It was McMillan, on the final stage, who clinched victory for the Scots in a Games record time which also beats the world record. The Scots' triumph in the decathlon was perhaps the most outstanding individual performance.

We now know that Tanzania have a Moscow Olympic marathon runner, Richard Ashim, from Cornwall, who won the event comfortably. We know now, too, that Allen Wells is a world class sprinter, not just because of his times, but because he has been so consistent in his performances.

The English men's 4 x 100 metres relay team made relatively

High work of winning their gold medals, with half a second to spare over the Canadians. The English women's total of nine gold, five silver and five bronze medals reflected a highly successful performance, where, however, the women's competition will be on a much higher plane than here.

Geoffrey Capes retained his shot put title for England with a throw of 44.10m with Canadians taking the next three places. In the javelin, Peter Yates took a bronze medal for England with a throw of 25.71m.

The English men's team gathered at the top of the podium to receive their gold medals and seven bronze, but, curiously, not a single silver. The Scottish men acquired two gold, one silver and two bronze. The Welsh had only Berwyn Price's hurdles gold medal to their credit.

Looking back on the whole week of track and field events, I think Henry Roope, with his gold medals in the steeplechase and 5,000 metres, was the most successful athlete. Daley Thompson's triumph in the decathlon was perhaps the most outstanding individual performance.

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Bringing joy to the heart and an unashamed lump to the throat

From John Hennessey
Edmonton, Aug 13

The Duke of Edinburgh rang down the curtain on the eleventh Commonwealth Games here yesterday (though the time difference carried us into Sunday BST). Fortunately, he did not follow the official text of his formal declaration, which read: "In accordance with tradition I call upon the sportsmen and women of the Commonwealth to assemble in Brisbane, Australia in 1982."

Another Anshelma in unshakable Prince Philip, urged that the spirit of the Commonwealth be carried on.

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ance in most other sports was less satisfactory, depressingly so when one recalls that the standards in the Commonwealth are often below those of Europe, let alone the world at large.

England, for instance, suffered crushing setbacks in the swimming pool, where time after time they were beaten to the touch for the gold medal. The remarkable Sharon Davies, however, confirmed her class in the punishing individual medley events and we have reason to hope that in two years' time, when she will still be only 17, she will be a much for anybody. Christopher Spode, too, the winner of both men's diving events, has made enormous improvement in the past few months, that he has had the benefit of coaching at Florida University.

The England bidders by a large were disappointing. It could be that Joe Awome, winner of the heavyweight division, must soon be able to handle any professional, heavyweight in Britain; but that is saying almost less than nothing. Just as the Commonwealth, on the other hand, had much success in the ring with two gold medals, by Philbar McGulgan, and Gerard Flanagan, together with a silver and a bronze.

United Kingdom competitors did poorly in the bowls, with only one gold medal (David Bryan's prerogative), and still worse in the cycling with none at all. The England bidders' team's haul of three gold medals gave cause for satisfaction, in spite of the fact that the hope of a possible silver medal in the freestyle reports elsewhere. The overall performance

watch. Always calm and clear-headed, counter-punching beautifully, defending cleverly, and hitting in crisp combinations, Hamill is an amateur boxer of rare ability. His Northern Irish team-mate, the bantamweight Barry McGulgan, often had to abandon his smooth style to copy with Tuna Sogoh, of Papua New Guinea. McGulgan was hard pressed to take a majority decision over the 4ft 11in Sogoh, the miniature but who had knocked out several of his previous opponents, including Jack Turner, of England.

Northern Ireland's third finalist, the welterweight Kenneth Beattie, was soundly beaten by a Jamaican, Michael McCann.

Compared with the semi-final round, the Canadian final round was a rather frustrating evening for huzzers and spectators alike. One had hoped to see a better performance from the Canadian, but he was unfortunately cut out by a disorienting interruption to the improvement he had shown in this, his first international event. Of the other two, only two were unanimous. No victory was incorrectly awarded in the final bouts, but the crowd of 1,000, largely unaccustomed to the sight of amateur boxing, often unobtainably hoarse decisions on fine performances, especially Hamill's.

In the victorious Canadian crowd's credit, the Canadian announcement of the Canadian (lightweight) Ian Clyde's win over Michael Irunga, of Kenya, brought a storm of catcalls. The scorecards were added again, a mistake discovered, and the decision switched to Irunga, to the delight of the audience.

For the rest, there are a variety of payments, travel expenses, compensation for loss of earnings, money to buy equipment. John Primrose, aged 36, winner of the Commonwealth trap shooting gold, said: "Game Plan has enabled me to become a professional student."

All 380 are nominally amateurs and involved in sport on the amateur level. Some are either the Olympics, the Commonwealth or Pan-American Games. Officials say the International Olympic Committee and other world sporting bodies regard the payments as compatible with amateur status, although recipients are not allowed to compete in American college athletics.

Awome does not make rafters ring

From Richard Low
Edmonton, Aug 13

Just when it seemed England's boxing team were headed for a crushing defeat, they reversed, and on the verge of fulfilling at least some of their promise in the Commonwealth Games final, Joe Awome dealt two more

First, there was the Friday morning jury decision that the Australian Phil McGulgan on the questionable ruling that he had been conned out to his disqualification win in the semi-final. This competitive edge was probably dulled further by the heavy weight category having only seven entries.

With a bye through the first round, Awome had only one hour, an unimpressive display over a New Zealander, George Stanovick, before the final.

There was considerable pressure on Awome, especially after the misfortune that befell Smith and Parkes, although Parkes would have had to show considerable improvement to stand a chance against McGulgan, ranked fourth in the world. The string of four wins had to be backed up with the lightweight George Gilbody's quarter-final loss to a Kenyan, Patrick Waweru, who cut the stylish Englishman with an accurate but less than usual jab.

Scotland's only hope in the final, the light welterweight Jim Douglas, made a quick exit when Waweru, Braithwaite of Guyana, put him down for the count with a left to the solar plexus in 30 seconds of the first round.

Northern Ireland's lightweight, Gary Hamill, one of the boxers in the Games, deservedly won his final against Waweru with another of his text-book performance. This 23-year-old huncher, from Ballymena, was a joy to

watch. Always calm and clear-headed, counter-punching beautifully, defending cleverly, and hitting in crisp combinations, Hamill is an amateur boxer of rare ability. His Northern Irish team-mate, the bantamweight Barry McGulgan, often had to abandon his smooth style to copy with Tuna Sogoh, of Papua New Guinea. McGulgan was hard pressed to take a majority decision over the 4ft 11in Sogoh, the miniature but who had knocked out several of his previous opponents, including Jack Turner, of England.

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Canada are East Germany of the West

Edmonton, Aug 13—Canadian sportsmen, who between them won 45 gold medals at the Commonwealth Games, were helped by a remarkable programme of Government subsidies to be unique in the West. The Federal Government pays its leading athletes up to \$5,000 a year each and Mrs. Jeanne, the Minister of Sports Minister, said Canada has been the highest successful, but most criticised, East German approach.

Canada won more medals than anyone else for the first time in the last Commonwealth Games, in Christchurch, New Zealand, four years ago, when it won only 25 golds and at the 1976 Montreal Olympics lost 100 golds to the Soviet Union.

Officials say this improvement could never have happened without Government help. Visitors to the Games, who were not allowed to enter with either envy or dismay.

"There is no way Canada will beat East Germany," she said. "We have learnt from the East Germans, we have visited with them and their programmes have some relevance to us, especially in coaching. But we never suffered from a surfeit of nationalism, but we are seeking excellence. We do not apologise for winning here."

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Honour roll of winners and runners-up at the Edmonton Games

<p>100 metres</p> <p>1. W. Watkins (Wai) 2. S. Watterson (Man)</p> <p>200m free-style</p> <p>1. R. Perrot (NZ) 2. T. Wickham (NZ) 3. M. Ford (Aus)</p> <p>400m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>800m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>1000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>1500m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>2000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>4000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>8000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>16000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>32000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>64000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>128000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>256000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>512000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>1024000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>2048000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>4096000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>8192000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>16384000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>32768000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>65536000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>131072000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>262144000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>524288000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>1048576000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>2097152000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>4194304000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>8388608000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>16777216000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>33554432000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>67108864000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>134217728000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>268435456000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>536870912000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>1073741824000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>2147483648000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>4294967296000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M. Ford (Aus) 3. R. Perrot (NZ)</p> <p>8589934592000m free-style</p> <p>1. T. Wickham (NZ) 2. M</p>

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Art of restoring paintings

THE GREAT GAME OF CONTAINMENT

When Mr. George Kennan first proposed containment as a policy for limiting Soviet power in Europe, the means were to be the military power of Nato and the United States in Berlin and wherever else it was called for. Later, military containment, both active and passive, was replaced by the policy of answer to a revolutionary war, which was believed (mistakenly) to be the main danger to the American war and (even more mistakenly) to be the power propelling the Vietnamese communism. It was a very comment on the American position in the seventies that the Chinese and the Soviet Union have each been energetically trying to contain the other by any means other than the military confrontation across the length of their inner Asian frontier. The signature on Saturday of a Peiping of a treaty with Japan as one gesture so intended by the Chinese; another even more recent one will be Mr Hua Kuofeng's visit this week to Bucharest and Belgrade.

have only themselves to blame for blowing up the issue. The great article published reveals a compromise between the original Japanese demand that the statement on hegemony should immediately be followed by a disclaimer about the signatory countries' relations with any other country. The disclaimer is made a separate article stipulating that the clause on hegemony is not to be understood as affecting the position of either country's relations with third countries. Japanese opinion will probably find this acceptable and Mr. Fukuda should in any case improve his country's low political rating. The Japanese most certainly do not want their relations with the Russians to be determined by China and it is significant that Japanese press comment urges some gesture by the government that will emphasize Japan's position. Nor can the importance of the treaty be isolated only as a move to China's gain of prominence. For half a century it

moves. Even more pointedly, it will be the first ever visit of China's national leader, one far greater than Moscow's, on the tenth anniversary of the invasion of Czechoslovakia; the occasion that transformed the Sino-Soviet dispute into a military confrontation and altered China's view of eastern Europe overnight.

Neither the Japanese nor the treaty nor any probable outcome of Mr Hua's visits has an overtly military character. Despite rumours, neither military alliances nor bases of any kind arise from Vietnam's Russian friendship or could follow Romania or Yugoslav friendship with China. To see these smaller countries take this gesture is important as a means of distancing themselves, of asserting independence—sometimes in sharp-edged spite, perhaps—as in Vietnam's move against China and Romania or Yugoslavia's against the Russians. Mr Hua's forthcoming visit contributed no doubt to the

Both these moves have aroused strong Russian resentment. The anti-Japanese treaty must first of all disengage the USSR from the "hegemony" clause on which a Chinese resister for political motives. When discussion was resumed this year Russian objections were reiterated, often with crude threats of a kind at few major powers would ply to another solely on account of its relations with a third country. The Japanese at times denied any intention of anti-Soviet gesture and have now got a text that absolves them. The signature of the treaty nevertheless seems something of a victory for China, the Russians

The Chinese will also appreciate this but their immediate jubilation will fasten on what they regard as a defeat for the Russians, smarting as they must be at last month's accession to Comecon by Vietnam. They will hope that this week's trip by Mr Hua Kuo-feng to Bucharest and Belgrade will also bring a telling political reward. This is less certain. Neither the Romanians nor the Yugoslavs are likely to be brought closer to China in any tangible way. The timing of the visit will seem something of a reply to: Vietnam's pro-Soviet

Caescu's Black Sea meeting with Mr. Brezhnev last week. "I think the two views of containment are primarily psychological and can thus be damaging to the countries plainly admitted in the countries where so much attention is paid to propaganda. But neither the Chinese nor the Russians can press their claims to the point where countries that concern them can be driven to move beyond their own definition of national interest. The Japanese have certainly not done so. Nor will Mr. Ceausescu or President Tito or Mr. Le Duang in Hanoi, but all of them see what benefits can accrue from the containment game.

EAR AND REPRESSION IN TUNISIA

e present series of trials of de union leaders and militants Tunisia is a source of concern and sadness to Tunisia's many ends in the West. The General on of Tunisian Workers GTU), to which the accused onged, is affiliated to the ernational Confederation of e Trade Unions (ICFTU). Mr o Kersten, the ICFTU's ernal Secretary, was in Tunis ee days before the general ile of January 26, of which be ressed approval. He has now ured to go and testify at the l of Mr Habib Achour, the mer general secretary of the TT and vice-president of the 'TU, which is expected to n in Tunis soon. He is pre- ed to argue that the UGTT :merely exercising the dem- tic right claimed by all work- everywhere to withdraw their our in an effort to obtain ter pay and conditions and to tect their rights.

n this case the specific urse of the strike, as announced the UGTT leaders, was to ot against the attacks on UGTT ises that had occurred oughout the country in the eeding days. It was in fact culmination of a prolonged il of strength between the on and the government, the er being supported by the rul- Destourian Socialist Party iD). The government was rmed by the increasing mil- ty of the union, which under

Mr Acbourn's leadership had broken off its wage pact with the government and had supported a series of lightning strikes to improve pay and conditions. But the government's claim, that the union leaders were preparing an insurrection has not on the whole carried conviction. It appears at least as likely that the party leader, Mr Sayab, and the interior minister, Mr Hannablia, had made up their minds in advance to use the police to break the union's strength and remove its leadership—presumably with the knowledge and approval of the prime minister, Mr Hedi Nouria, if not of President Bourguiba himself who is less and less able to play a direct part in government.

The arrest of all the leading figures in the union, at national and local level, was followed by the dismissal of many active trade unionists from their jobs and then the introduction of compulsory work camps for unemployed men between the ages of eighteen and thirty, which provided a convenient pretext for broadening up potential trouble-makers. The trials began in July. So far, at two trials in Sfax, twenty young miners have been given sentences ranging from four to thirty months while five UGTT regional officials were sent to prison for two years. (Three others got suspended sentences.) At the much larger trial still in progress in Sousse, the prosecu-

tor has actually asked for death sentences on thirty-nine of the 101 defendants, including the regional general secretary of the United Arab Emirates who is not generally expected to be passed, but very heavy prison sentences are clearly likely. Moreover, many of the defendants have stated in court that confessions were extracted from them by torture, and their requests for medical checks have been ignored. There are fears that the trial of the national leadership might now be held during Ramadan, and that Mr Abcou and others who are strict Muslims may have to go through days of cross-examination in the sweltering courtroom without food or drink. There are also reports that potential defence witnesses are being arrested.

Of course things just as bad or worse happen in most Arab countries. But Tunisia until now has seemed a particularly relaxed and civilized place where, if anywhere on the southern shore of the Mediterranean, democracy might gradually take root. Even now a moderate opposition is allowed to exist unofficially and to publish its own newspapers (though one is not advised to be seen reading them on the street). It must be hoped that Tunisia's underlying liberalism and decency will assert itself before the regime is irrevocably caught up in the wretched cycle of fear and repression.

avid Wood

Labour and the trade union connection

any politician who still knows
hawk from a hand saw in the ris-
e fever of electioneering, there
has been a run of three significantly
re-connected declarations by
leading members of the Conservative
and Unionist Party during the past few
weeks on trade unionism. On July
10 Mr Prior went to Clapham baths
to make a long and careful speech
on Lambeth Conservatives on the
party's attitude in government
to the trade unions. He prom-
ised that there would be "no union
thing" and no confrontation, but
stated that union leaders were not
allowed to preach socialism for the
role of their movement when
in government. He said that the
party was "against the Labor
Party's business government."
He said, was to defend and promote
a general national interest.

Mr Prior made that speech at a
time when the Shadow Cabinet
were privately dotting the "i's"
on the Conservative manifesto
for the general election. It there-
fore carried special authority. We
went on to last Monday, when Sir
Jeffrey Rowe took up the theme
at the Central Office before an audience
of 100. He said that the party
wanted Mr Prior only in the em-
phasis he gave to the argument that
"policification" of trade
unionism, with the Parliamentary
Party and any Labor gov-
ernment, would mean a "closed
shop on electoral choice."
He hinted at the need for a bill of
reform on the movement between the trade
unions and politics; it was a dan-
gerous and undemocratic fiction in
the hands of a union interest with
no party.

Then on Thursday Mr Whitlaw,
Conservative deputy leader, pub-
lished a statement that attracted
little or no interest. He rebuked Mr
Idi Barnett, chairman of the
C. G., for the personal abuse with

which he responded to the Hove speech and his pervasiveness of "the very mythology which we believe is so damaging".

Mr Bassett's deep-seated assumption, he wrote, was that the Labour Party would be defined as correct on all issues, and that the essential qualification for any politician to hold office was that he should ignore what people (including union members) felt about the present role and prospects of the unions. He described the part of the trade unions as central to economic survival, not simply an engineering issue. Trade unions, he hinted in a Baldwinian way, must not claim power on the basis of incapacity from physical obsolescence.

Mr May safely came to a few conclusions after study of the texts. Mrs Thatcher and the Shadow Cabinet recognize that, even after the passage of more than four years, there will be a lingering apprehension in the mind of the electorate about the policies of any Conservative government must lead to collision with trade union leaders who are personally committed to Labour and serve as Labour's paymaster before and during general elections. They believe that Labour leaders will inconspicuously revive the echoes of the battle between Mr Heath and the miners in early 1974; and they quote Mr Callaghan's astoundingly disingenuous conclusion: "We need time for the trade union secretaries to work up the anti-Tory campaign." Hostility to Labour, the Prime Minister no doubt reasons, will be the inevitable result, and that ethically and ideologically, the Shadow Cabinet indignantly rejects.

Richard Crossman recorded in his diary the discussions of 1970 in which Labour leaders incubated the plans to work up feelings of hostility to the Government. Yet in some important ways the circumstances in 1978 differ. After four years of TUC power sharing with the Labour Government, the unions are no longer so worried about work, and perhaps another quarter million whose jobs have been conspicuously invented or preserved. Unemployment has weakened trade unions numerically, but the psychological damage through the 1970s repercussions have been far more muted than in earlier recessions. Moreover, some of the larger trade unions have turned to moderate in leadership: there is

[illegible]

The Sadat-Begin talks

From Lord Caradon

Sir, We should not hesitate to admire President Carter's decision to invite President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin to meet him in September. The decision is dangerous, dangerous because it is dangerous to President Carter. It is dangerous to President Carter because of the reputation if his personal intervention fails—and he must by now be fully aware of the dangers of failure. It is dangerous to all concerned, most dangerous of all to Palestinian rights and to Israel's security.

But the obvious dangers outweigh the failure to achieve any agreement at all—would perhaps be at least. Outright failure at Camp David would at least make everyone at the table up to the real issues. The Worst Case would be the agreement between Egypt and Israeli pretence to deal with the basic problems of Palestinian self-determination and Israeli security by deceptive and

Worst of all would be further delay. There has been a conspiracy of delay since the 1957 war in the rejection of Ambassador Jarman's four-point "Roadmap" to the security of the Region 242, the absence of a Conference, the futility of subsequent so-called negotiations. While these deliberate delays have been perpetuated the military domination of the occupied Arab territories has provided the cover for the continued creeping colonization of the occupied territories. The decade of delay has made peaceful settlement far more difficult. Another five years of the same sort, with extension of Israeli military domination on the West Bank and multiplication of Jewish settlements on Arab lands would make a negotiated settlement impossible and increase conflict inevitable.

So it is that further delay is the greatest danger of all.

I long ago called the Israeli settlements on the West Bank "signposts to destruction". They are the key issue. If after the Camp David meeting they are to continue then hopes of a lasting peace and Israeli security will have been thrown away.

The outline of a plan for peace is increasingly clear, carrying the widest international agreement and capable of winning acceptance of Palestinians and Arab states including Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Saudi Arabia, and enlisting also the support of the growing Peace Movement in Israel.

The test is the recognition of Palestinian rights over their remaining lands. It is on the satisfaction of that test that the Camp David talks will be judged; and it is to be hoped that President Carter has not forgotten what he said a year before he was elected as President: "I think one of the integral parts of an ultimate settlement has got to be the recognition of the Palestinians as a people, as a nation, with a place to live and a right to choose their own leaders."

Yours faithfully,
HUGH CARADON,
House of Lords.

Disruption to flights

From Mr D. A. Jacobs
Sir, Whilst it is common knowledge
that the French air traffic con-
trollers' "go slow" has caused
widespread delays to flights
throughout Europe, what is per-
haps not generally known is that only
flights between Britain and France
are affected in particular, for example
flights from London to Nice, the delay
in flights flown by Air France was
less than half the delay of those
flights flown by British Airways.
In consequence of this, as the
British Airways officials at Nice
will confirm, so many agents
have changed from British Airways
flights to Air France flights since
the latter travelled absolutely full
while in several cases the British
Airways flights from Nice to Lon-

Has British Airways taken any action to reduce the apparent discrimination against itself in favour of Air France?

Mr. J. H. BAKER: It is perhaps ironical that the air traffic controllers' action is perceived to bring pressure on the French Government and one would therefore expect they would cause a minimum delay in Air France flights, instead of which they appear to favour Air France flights and discriminate against British Airways.

Mr. J. H. BAKER: I am, therefore, Mr. A. JACOBS.

From Mrs A. N. Sanders
Sir: It would be interesting to know
what promotion of those people
frustrated and miserable as a result
of the French air traffic controllers'
dispute, have caused misery and
frustration to British people by their
own industrial action during the
past five years.
Yours faithfully,
A. N. SANDERS.
1 Parkside Drive,
Old Cotton,

Citizens' band radio

From Mr. K. Betts
 If there were a single obvious
 reason for the introduction of
 the band radio in the country
 we would have had it long ago.
 Dr Comfort in his letter of July
 27 points to the service to drivers
 and the increase in police efficiency
 engendered by CB. He could also
 have mentioned its value to the old-
 fashioned social and the housebound
 terrorizing in casual cootact where
 none existed before.
 Many members of the React teams
 who monitor the CB channels 24
 hours per day and give help of
 various kinds where necessary) are
 housebound for one reason or
 another and CB provides them with
 contact and, in some cases
 or the first time in their lives, an
 opportunity to be of some use to
 the community.
 In a society where the infirm are
 increasingly isolated we need CB
 badly.
 Yours truly,
 KEN BETTS,
 2 Draycot Road,
 Chislewood,
 Wiltshire.

Limitations to serious thought

From Mrs John D. Hughes
Sir, The tone of the recent conference of distinguished academics at Sheffield (*The Times*, August 10) appears to have been disturbing! I am sure that the conference was in our service as it does to wider issues than its stated subject for discussion, the usefulness or futility of launching of a new serious review.

From your report, one gathers that the most widely held view was that the British and intellectual life in this country is in a state of low and that the majority of people are incapable of taking interest in anything more intellectually demanding than "Do It Yourself Magazine" (Dr. Kummerow and Kern), further such judgments of our cultural state by Dr Roger Poots (Nottingham University) asserted that "people are not serious" (sic) and that the times we live in have been misled by critics like Arnold, T. S. Eliot and Lewis with their "false idea of an educated and cultured minority, which problematized the lives of the masses."

and they exist at the expense of the people. There are some examples and misunderstandings here that are positively dangerous in their invitation to those interested in ideas to indulge a passive despair about the future. If we really believe that most people (unlike us of course) aren't serious, then of course education is hopeless. It is a self fulfilling prophecy. If we don't believe that, we can't let our despair get the best of us. We won't be able to give them any worthwhile education, and so we may as well get on with our specialisms and talk only to our colleagues. But if we only believe that education is a waste of time, then we are in for a fight with learning to speak to one another about serious matters, we must reject such defeatism. And here we have the support of Arnould and his colleagues. They are serious and can't be classified in this way with these two.) Who, for example, knows and cares about adult education in this country could underestimate the vast influence of the two men, and their opposition to rigorous intellectual standards and consistent opposition to the trivialisation of human beings and their potentialities, on generations of adult learners and their students? They have created a wish-fulfillment myth about minority culture groups, the bulk of his thinking and writing on culture was presented as offering a tremendous aid and a challenge, and grace to the masses of people facing big celebrations that of working to create a truly educated democracy.

The task and challenge are very much bere with us. The majority of people in this country have not had a rich education and many a barely adequate one. Immense amounts of creative energy and co-operation and stamina are required to give people the chance to reach standards of excellence. Our distinguished intellectuals are very much needed here to do as Aroold did in the 1870s, that is, to ask the right questions and, in a world "drugged with business" as he put it, help the individual to realize his capacities to the full.

Yours faithfully,
W. HUGHES.
Ruskin College,
Oxford.
August 10.

The Moscow Olympics

Sir, The political climate in the USSR is not appropriate for the atmosphere of the Olympic Games. Surely the International Olympic Regulations, do not permit the Games to be held in a country where there is civil unrest? The situation in the USSR where people are thrown into jail and psychiatric wards because of their beliefs and opinions is equivalent to that of a country where there is a state of

The USSR intends to present a "human image" in the Olympic Games, which is the only chance it has to show the free West must not give respectability to an aggressive totalitarian regime. The Soviet Union will invite 100,000 athletes to Moscow, for pre-Olympic Games in 1979, but it has hinted that athletes from "unfriendly" countries will be excluded.

If Hitler had died...

str. Unfortunately Dr Rae's valuable contribution (August 8) about what might have happened if the bomb failed against Hitler had succeeded does not pose the vital question of what we mean by the success of this plot. Any answer must imply two underlying assumptions, firstly that Hitler would have been killed by the assassination attempt, and, secondly, that as a result of his death power would have been transferred to the conspirators.

The first assumption is by no means improbable, after all four of the conspirators were the bomb makers, however, the centre of power was in Rastenburg, not in Berlin and within hours almost all the main leaders had assembled there. They were in control of the German radio, the telephone machine, the controlled communications and the media. Goering would still have been Hitler's successor and irrespective of personal rivalries among themselves Hitler's death would rather likely have drawn them together to risk their positions in a struggle for succession.

What power did the conspirators have with which to confront the leaders of the Third Reich who were controlled and bedded by underground command centres in Berlin, hardly anything. Their basic calculation was based on bluff, a bluff based on the assumption that a German officer obeys orders without asking questions. Hagelin and Reussner proved this calculation wrong.

From Dr Peter J. Smith
Sir, In his article on the quarterlies (August 10), Ian Bradley makes the point that academics and others find their time increasingly taken up by the paraphernalia of Bureaucracy, and their capacity for reflection accordingly limited". As far as academics are concerned, the war against bureaucracy is more than it has hitherto received.

In most, if not all, universities the number of committees and working groups has risen alarmingly in the last few years, not more so than at the Open University which performs most of the functions of a conventional university and many besides (relating to broadcasting, distance education, etc.). Our war against the committee is too useful and essential work, it is quite obvious that many are largely worthless. Some come to conclusions so jargon-ridden that they are incomprehensible to the most sensible, trivial. Others spend most of their time discussing conclusions reached by yet other committees which then feed their conclusions back to the original committees, and

Why does it all go on? The reason is simple. Administration is much easier than either teaching or research; it may be time consuming, but it requires far less intellectual effort. People who are not actually doing research tend, statistically, to drift towards the easier occupation; and academics being what they are, they will tend to find superficially plausible excuses for their behaviour.

Academics, however, have gone so far that they are now an integral part of the university system of advancement. The traditional cry of academics is that when it comes to promotion research is valued too highly over teaching. But the disingenuousness of this protest is being increasingly apparent. For promotion is valued more highly than either. Are not the three most highly paid people in a university administrators in name? And are not the most highly paid people in faculties and departments administrators in name? And if a professor or two in university it becomes clear to even the most idealistic of young academics that to opt for the easier activity is to opt for

Academics themselves are responsible for this deplorable situation, because they control the advancement of their juniors. Moreover, having decided that administration is to be the most valued activity (and out of a sense of guilt?), they exert on their juniors almost irresistible pressures to conform--to free themselves from the accusations of selfishness and failure to do one's duty to the more subtle withholding of essential information. The truth is that academics in general have entered into a conspiracy with themselves to elevate easy routine above difficult originality. To oppose this consensus requires a strong-mindedness that comparatively few possess. Sincerely yours,
PETER J. SMITH,
Reader in Earth Sciences,
The Open University,
Milton Keynes.
August 10.

Control of Walvis Bay

Mr. Mr **Shayua Kaukungua**
Sir, The future of Namibia (and indirectly that of the whole of Southern Africa) now appears to hinge upon a single issue: Walvis Bay. Yet very little consideration has been given to the problem, as serious as the Namibian eyes and ears are amazed and bow widely and unquestioningly South Africa's claim to ownership of Walvis Bay is thought to be legally watertight. Walvis Bay, it is argued, was ceded to Britain in the Treaty of 1885, and subsequently given by Britain to South Africa. Our position is clear:

(i) We were never party to, nor consulted in, any colonial treaties assigning away a piece of our territory, and we therefore do not accept the legality of South Africa's "ownership".

(ii) Walvis Bay is Namibia's only deep-water port—the terrain allows for no other—and handles 80 per cent of the country's exports. Control of the port is undoubtedly given to South Africa a stranglehold over Namibia's economy.

(iii) The enclave (which is an area of 432 square miles) includes fast expanding South African military bases. How can we ask in all reason: Could a truly independent Namibia be conceivable with Walvis Bay under South African control?

Ours faithfully,
SHAPUA KAUKUNGUA,
Chief Representative for Western
Province of the West Africa
People's Organization.
188 North Gover Street, NWI.

Petrol tax or car tax?

Before the proposals in Mr. Stoker's letter today (August 5) for the replacement of road tax by an increased petrol tax are taken forward it would be necessary to consider the difficulties of those who own small cars for instance 35 or 40 miles from the nearest general hospital, 40 miles from a crematorium, 23 miles from the borough council offices, and so on. The difficulties and expenses of transport for the sick and for the parishioners here, as in many other areas, because of the distances involved. Do not let us thoughtlessly add to them.

Yours faithfully,
A. C. GRICE-HUTCHINSON,
The Vicarage,
Seahouses,
Northumberland.

Smiling at strangers:

From Miss P. L. Cairns

air. They order these things better
 in Italy. My youthful babir of wink-
 ing at any passing gentleman under
 the age of 30, or thereabouts had
 been abandoned in this country
 because the recipient blushed or
 wept. But in Verona a tentative wink
 of a three-year-old Valentine was
 immediately returned in kind, with
 a devastating smile.
 Yours faithfully,
 J. CAIRNS,
 Greenway,
 Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

from the Rev D. G. Richards
 (Mr. Mrs John Miller (August 11)
 were a gentleman, the answer would
 be simple—wear a clerical collar.
 Yours faithfully,
 D. G. RICHARDS,
 the Vicar of
 St. Andrew's, Merioeth.

China: the long march towards a technological goal

Friends of China must still hope that its policies will not result in industrialization on Japanese lines. If they did, it has been calculated that by the year 2005 China would be consuming, annually, twice the entire present output of oil of all the OPEC countries put together.

The present Government of China is pledged to achieve, by 1980, an advanced and reasonably comprehensive industrial society, and, by modernizing agriculture, industry, science and technology, and defence, to bring China into the first rank of world powers by the end of the century. To this end they have abandoned the policies of the radicals, with their egalitarianism, distrust of an elite and passionate insistence on revolutionary purity, in favour of a pragmatism which should at any rate make a strong appeal to some in the West, and notably in this country. And the China watchers seem to think that the present policy has come to stay.

While fully sympathetic with this ambitious decision, friends of China must still hope that it will not result in industrialization on Japanese lines. For if it did, it has been calculated that by the year 2005 China would be consuming annually, twice the entire present output of oil of all the OPEC countries put together, and producing annually for export at least £100,000 million worth of industrial goods. What the ecological and social effects of this on the outside world would be can be left to the imagination. And even whether it would result in an increase in the happiness of the Chinese is open to doubt.

Happily, we can dismiss such spectres. For the Chinese are surely more likely—though not of course, certain—to develop their country in a Chinese way, avoiding by the nature of things some of the more unpleasant features of Western industrialization. Not that they are immune from such evils: they are just as human as the rest of us. It is rather that the "modernization" of a quarter of the human race, always conscious of its ancient and separate civilization and wary of foreign influence, is likely to be limited by predictable factors.

To begin with, the

financial—as opposed to the physical—resources necessary to achieve rapid industrialization are in short supply, as indeed are some potential specialists and technicians who, for the last 10 years, have for the most part been studying propaganda rather than technology—and often carrying manure in the agricultural communes—as a result of policies now attributed to the "Gang of Four". Finance could, no doubt, become available, as in the past elsewhere, by drafting large numbers of peasants into factories and holding down the general standard of living of the people on the assumption that (provided the funds were not drained off into armaments or for unproductive purposes) industrialization would increase it in the long run. Though the Chinese content themselves with a gradual mechanization of agriculture, resulting in the transfer of at least some peasants into factories, it does not look as if they would want to face the dreadful upheavals consequent on sole reliance on this source of funds.

The other way of getting finance and recruiting technicians is from the outside world. Finding suitable technicians outside is not easy: there is, first and foremost, the language problem; then the salaries (far above anything paid in China); finally willingness and ability to work on equal and friendly terms with the Chinese. Some say that overseas Chinese, and notably those trained in America or Singapore, might fill the gap, and perhaps they will. Or possibly the Japanese might help, though that also might present difficulties. In any case the fact that millions of Chinese between 20 and 30 have had very little specialized education is a serious limiting factor which might even prejudice the entire scheme. Some students can do no doubt now be sent abroad for training, but the time taken to return remains financial assistance.

Hitherto the new regime has

merely spoken of deferred payments, deposits, certain forms of credit and so on. But in an interview on June 22, Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien for the first time actually mentioned bank loans, originating apparently in Western Europe and Japan. This is natural since China's relations with the "Super Power", America, though improving, are still difficult and the possibility of being under any obligation to a super power is not acceptable. Moreover, their memory of old state loans is, so we were always assured, a bitter one. So the Chinese now place their hopes for a better future on Western Europe. They need help chiefly to develop their heavy industry. They also need help to modernize their armed forces, though they realize that other objectives must have priority. Nevertheless the sort of modern conventional defensive weapons that the EEC, if it had any sense, would now be producing in accordance with some agreed plan, would be well-suited to Chinese needs. And we can hardly imagine that the Americans would any longer disapprove of this. Arms or no arms, if the Community does not now respond to the Chinese request for assistance, the results could be serious. That it will respond, there is little doubt. There will be difficulties. Bankers seem to agree that the credit of the present Chinese Government will be good. But will they expect to be given, or sold, the requisite blueprints? Would they agree to a whole factory being installed by foreign technicians provided they could operate it after it was built? Still, the Chinese do now have a stable regime well-disposed—if no doubt for reasons of its own—towards the West. European democracies. It does not appear that the Chinese are as incorrigible "imperialists" as the Russians do; it is certainly not seeking to undermine them or to cut them off from basic raw materials; it is not engaged in piling up arms beyond all conceivable defensive needs; it does not dominate or seek to dominate any other state beyond the historical confines of the old Chinese Empire; all it asks is to be regarded as a friend and treated on completely equal terms. It is suspicious of the Soviet Government; but then so are we.

Besides, apart from bad publicity, some of the achievements of the Chinese since what they call their "Liberation" in 1949 have been remarkable. Alone among the developing nations they have so far received no aid, but they have nevertheless abolished absolute poverty, fed

their huge population adequately, avoided "urban blight" (in the western sense) and made quite successful efforts to limit their numbers. With a minimum wage of some 60 Yuans (£20) a month the standard of living is still very low—it would be better described as Spartan—but food and lodgings are both very cheap.

It is quite true that since 1949 China has been and still is a totalitarian state. Foreigners are shown what the government wants them to see—it is often impressive. But they are not allowed to know what goes on behind the scenes or indeed in the vast areas that they cannot now visit. That there have been during the last 30 years, appalling struggles for power behind a facade of unity is undoubted. The Cultural Revolution was by all accounts a disaster of the first magnitude, in the course of which countless intellectuals and dissidents were eliminated, and much of China's cultural, historical and spiritual heritage destroyed.

We are told that this is happily now over, even if a cultural desert remains, and that the regime is now pursuing a more enlightened and liberal policy. There are those who say Mr. Bernard Levin is one of them—that this is impossible and that any totalitarian state is condemned by its very philosophy to pursue a totalitarian and barbarous policy. But need we be so pessimistic? Is it not likely that, apart from anything else, the more China is opened up to Western influences the greater the likelihood of the totalitarian principles may be modified by at least some freedom of expression and the tolerance of some non-conformist ideas?

For China, will indeed—so we are informed—be increasingly opened up to foreign tourists. If they do come in the large numbers contemplated they can hardly all be segregated and subjected to supervision. Some foreigners, at least some who speak the

language will undoubtedly be able to make contact with ordinary Chinese and discover what is the real feeling in various parts of the country. New forces may well be at work and, with luck, the most intelligent race in the world may be found to be on the way towards a brighter and more tolerant form of society. China has never been a democracy in the Western sense, and probably never will be. But it could once again evolve on the lines of great civilized dynasties earlier than the Ching or the Ming.

Only one argument can, and will, be used against a constructive policy of Euro-Chinese friendship: it would annoy the Russians and thus prejudice détente. Solzhenitsyn is against it, though like all Russians he is probably influenced by ancestral memories which tend to comprise the races of Han with the Mongols of Genghis Khan. But in any case the argument is slightly crazy: we must repulse a friend in order to placate an adversary. It is the child of fear, not of rational thinking. Nor is it as if we were simply recruiting China as an ally against Russia. By helping to build her up we shall rather be taking part in an historical process whereby peace will be the creation of a world state, be preserved by the emergence of great political entities, conflict between whom will become more and more impossible as times goes on.

The stronger the EEC, the more likely the attainment of such a goal. The weaker the EEC, the stronger the temptation for one of the superpowers (and we know which one) to upset the balance which imparts our freedom by the constant insistence on European political unity. But even if for obvious reasons of their own, the Chinese are right.

Lord Gladwyn

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William Shaw: photograph © Women's Wear Daily

The magazine that aims at perfection

Few magazines can have published as many good writers as *The New Yorker*. Edmund Wilson, H. L. Menckens, Saul Bellow, J. D. Salinger, James Thurber, John O'Hara and Vladimir Nabokov immediately come to mind; but the list goes on. One recalls Hannah Arendt, John Updike, Muriel Spark, Rachel Carson, John Cheever, Truman Capote, A. J. Liebling, S. J. Perelman and Ved Mehra.

More than 550 books first appeared in the magazine, generally as one of those series of articles flowing through the columns of advertising. Factual writers predominated: Wilson's *The Scorpions of the Desert*, Arendt's *Eichmann in Jerusalem*, and Capote's *In Cold Blood*, among them. The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie first appeared in the magazine as did *The Thirder Carnival* and James Baldwin's polemic *The Fire Next Time*.

The *New Yorker* pays its writers handsomely, but does not altogether explain its literary and journalistic successes. That it provides such a splendid platform is one reason—the circulation is nearly half a million and the readership many times that figure—and another is the generous allowance of space.

Articles and stories can run for thousands of words. Writers are almost rarely hurried. They have been known to devote three, six, even nine months to a single project. Robert Caro spent seven years researching and writing an account of the life and works of Robert Moses.

No author could expect to be treated better, but the magazine's high standards, style and catholicity of content depend largely upon its editing. This explains why the mass of glossy advertising has not turned the magazine into just another plush publication fit only for the coffee tables of the rich and fashionable.

There have been but two editors since it was first published 53 years ago: Harold Ross and William Shawn. Brendan Gill recalled in his book *Here At The New Yorker* that Ross, noted on immaculate writing. Mr. Shawn, who began his career as a reporter on the *Los Angeles Times* and succeeded Ross after his death in 1951, shared the same passion for sound English usage.

He will be 71 in August, and has been privately and wholly dedicated to maintaining standards in a crumbling world. He recently said that *The New Yorker* style was difficult to define, but it had begun with good writers such as E. B. White and Thurber, who they had served as models for the men who came after. It was never earnest, and he strove for simple and clear language.

One critic said that the style was too polished and emotionally removed. It is certainly polished. Every word is chosen for its sound, and the editors work very closely with writers. Mr. Shawn reads every

thing that goes into the magazine. He said, "There's no on how many times we'll accept a piece if we have it."

The quest for perfection not remove emotion, reflects emotional writing, quest for accuracy is no exacting. Writers are expected to provide their material, including tape recordings of interviews, and the checking department goes to extraordinary lengths to verify facts.

For instance, when Arendt wrote her book on Mann, a German-speaker checker spent four months reading captured German documents at the YIVO Institute in New York. Researcher Arendt's careful scholarship, apparently offended, but writers welcome this safety against carelessness or tendency to prefer style to substance. They always have final say.

The magazine's continued impressive, but changes, been considerable over years. It is still very far without spite or malice, but basic seriousness has increased. Mr. Shawn thinks that no days there is less humour than the United States than Britain, and also suggests that the magazine reflects changing world.

The turning point appeared in 1970 when Richard Goodwin, a former Kenn speech writer, wrote editorial denouncing the G. I. Bill invasion as a pseudo-Americanism. Power. Shawn recently said that magazine tried to be fair, humane, and in an earlier view said, "We have defied certain things that we believe in and cherish."

A. J. Liebling once wrote *The New Yorker* that there is an alarm bell in the breast of every Englishman which rings when his liberties are threatened. I am not certain that it is still true, but clearly it is an alarm bell somewhere. The shabby editorial floors of the magazine which ring with the thud of their belief in a cherish are threatened.

Mr. Shawn likes to think that *The New Yorker* is not alone that publications such as *The Times* share the honour of a burden of defending human liberty and decency. Nevertheless, the magazine should carefully read by those who regret the passing of serious weekly magazines in Britain.

One obvious lesson is that is the product of a capitalist society, that those pages, advertisements are necessary pay for good writers. Another lesson is that the editors are influenced by political ideology. They follow the truth, or what they perceive to be the truth, no matter where it leads. And however disturbing the truth may prove to be, they not raise their voice or let their sense of humour.

Louis Here

Eric Moonman

Terrorists rule, OK?

Terrorism today is a thriving international business. The many groups involved communicate with and support each other; the arms dealers are the same whether the outrage occurs in Rome or Belfast. The massacre at Lod airport, for example, was carried out by Japanese terrorists, recruited and trained through agents in North Korea, given their final training in Syria and the Lebanon, armed in Italy, and sent on their previously unknown "mission" by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine. Nearer home, IRA equipment is largely financed by donations from the United States and dispatched from Libya.

The surprising thing, though, is not the international dimension, but the slowness with which this has been recognized by the public and by governments. It is perhaps understandable that most people will want to put their heads in the sand, rather than contemplate the horrors of rule by terrorism. But governments ought not to have ignored the pointers which emerged from the Dublin terrorist conference a couple of years ago, and the Japanese and some West European governments must certainly be criticized for the way in which they have exploited public indifference and apathy.

What is the scale of terrorist activity? One study which counted the terrorist incidents between the beginning of 1968 and the end of 1975 found that, between 1965 and the end of 1968, the number of cases remained at below 50 a year. In 1969-70, the rate jumped to well over 100 a year, fell back in 71, rose again in 72, and then 200 incidents in 1973, falling slightly in 1974, and rising to around 175 a year. A CIA report published last year estimated that, since 1967, there

had been 501 bombings, 146 hijackings of planes and trains, 137 kidnappings, 103 incendiary attacks, and 63 assassinations.

The kidnapping and killing of Aldo Moro, appalling as it was, is only one incident in a rising tide of political violence in Italy, where 76 people were kidnapped last year. In the past 12 months, in addition to the kidnappings, which included the head of the Socialist Party, there have been an attempt to blow up the Naples-Milan express; several demonstrations in Rome resulting in the deaths of policemen and others; the murder of the deputy editor of the Turin newspaper, *La Stampa*, and of a leading appeal court lawyer; a series of attacks on members of the Christian Democratic Party; and several clashes between extreme right and extreme left groups.

The cooperation between terrorist groups in different countries is substantial and troubling. Earlier this year a BBC team discovered evidence of a co-ordinating body which administers funds, carries out training, and assigns operations. In a *Panorama* programme they exposed the activities of a "hit group", led by Christian Palestinian, Wadihed Haddad. His organization administers the money collected by extortion and ransom, organizes training camps in various Middle East countries, and plans and assigns groups to carry out particular terrorist operations. Support for the programme's underlying thesis has come from documents and photographs found by the Israeli military force sent to clear Palestinian guerrillas out of southern Lebanon. From these it appears that the Abassiyah village area has been used as a centre for international terrorism used by Japanese, North Koreans, Pakistanis and various European groups.

Another "hit group" for which there is growing evidence is the Junta de Coordinación Revolucionaria (JCR)

which has its roots in South America with the Argentinian contingent providing most of the funding. It also raises funds through kidnapping and drug-peddling. There are cells in a number of European countries and it has published two training manuals giving instruction on every aspect of guerrilla warfare and urban terrorism.

The international dimension has always been apparent in relation to arms. The IRA, for instance, has been known to use Russian rocket launchers, and more recently, Russian semi-automatic rifles and German 22 automatic rifles. The rocket launchers came to the IRA via the Russians and rifles probably via China and Albania, and the German rifles through Belgian arms dealers.

Is there a terrorist psychology? Bernard Henri Lévy, author of *La barbarie a visage humain*, describes terrorists as the "great modern incarnation of the ideal of the state". Acting in the context of an age that introduced the "dream of absolute death", a context that includes the shadow of Auschwitz and the use of nuclear weapons, they reflect the violence of the state—its democratic violence.

There may be some truth in this, but it is a truth that will do nothing to relieve the situation. Lévy is naive if he believes that it is the decrepit state of nineteenth-century Russia, which puts sophisticated modern weapons into the hands of middle-class German youngsters so that they may murder businessmen and even friends of their own families. Most dictionary definitions of terrorism refer to the use of violence for political ends. But in modern terrorism the political ends seem to be subservient to the aim of the organization for its own sake. How else can we explain the variety of political causes which get advice

and assistance from the same sources; or the futile efforts of European youngsters to get changes in situations outside their own countries by putting pressure on their own government, which may have no influence at all in the situation being attacked?

The efforts of "freedom fighters" against despotic governments have always resulted in the slaughter of some innocents, if only because they have got in the line of fire. But modern terrorism differs from this kind of warfare because it uses direct attacks on the uninvolved to bring pressure on governments. And in doing so it overruns its own case; for unless governments can be persuaded to change their policies, the terrorist polemic denies them, the pressure cannot succeed. It is the virtues of modern society rather than its failures which are being used to overthrow it.

Jean-François Revel gets nearer the truth: he wrote in the French journal, *l'Express*, that terrorism is gangsterism. Whatever the declared motives of any individual incident, the result is the same: the murder of innocent people, the violation of their democratic violence.

The inference is, surely, that, with the exception of a few ideologists, maybe even hucksters, terrorism is largely carried out by individuals who would seek some kind of anti-social activity wherever the prevailing political climate. It is this facet which attracts big business—not only the big business of the arms dealers but the big business of terrorism. The philosophy of the "mercenary" soldier is not restricted to "other ranks" and

the evidence is growing that they are the mercenaries too, among its organizers.

The anti-society mentality of the terrorist can also be used by governments as deliberate state policy. There is nothing new in this—it happened in the French Revolution with the reign of terror and again in Stalin's Russia.

The latest example is Ethiopia, where a high barism has taken over following the military successes of the Russian-supported regime against Somalia. The appalling story (*The Times*, March 22) of the 14-year-old boy kidnapped from his home and returned five days later dead and mutilated with instructions that his body was to be left in the street as a warning to others, demanded an international response. But none was forthcoming.

And in the United Nations, the wheeling and dealing of international politics presents any kind of united denunciation. The barbarism of left-wing extremists is attacked only by the right; that of right-wing dictators only by the left; oil, wheat and IMF credit decide the alignments, and there are few spokesmen for the victims of terrorism whether it is condemned or condoned by the state in which it happens.

So what are we going to do? Things could get worse in the next ten years. If only one person or group got hold of what Walter Laqueur has described as the "weapons of super-violence" a whole city could be put at risk. Contemporary society is vulnerable with its concentration of population, computerized information banks, and transportation centres. And terrorism pays, if only by thrusting the terrorist group into public consciousness. In 1970 the PLO was totally thrown them out of Jordan; they have never successfully attacked a military target in Israel, but

their terrorist activities have nevertheless given them a profile as a force to be reckoned with.

All the writers on this subject, whether speaking for the CIA or writing independently, forecast nothing but gloom and doom. It is gloomy. Nothing else I have written on for *The Times* in these past four years fills me with such a sense of oppression as the power of those who would destroy and remake our society. We are paying now the price of previous failures; the failure of the Japanese Government to resist individual threats; the failure of our own Government and its allies to realize that the hijackings and assassinations of the early 1960s were our concern, even though they happened half the world away. But terrorism knows no boundaries and now threatens to overwhelm us all. State-menus such as the recent one from the Bonn summit are no more than compromises, with little practical effect.

Part of the answer, and it is a pragmatic one, originates with those closer to the battlefield in Europe—the police. Terrorism must be treated as crime. A recent conference in Britain on crime prevention, attended by 130 experts from 13 countries, including one from the FBI, the head of the French secretariat, and the secretary general of Interpol, argued that only by concerted action can crime prevention be organized at an international level. A senior British policeman propounded the idea of a European crime squad on the pattern of the various regional crime squads. He is thinking on the right lines. Terrorism is gangsterism; its psychology is the psychology of "smash and grab". Our response must be in crime-fighting terms.

The author is Labour MP for Basildon.

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LEAPMAN IN AMERICA

It is not only on the transatlantic routes that jaw air fares have caused full planes and airport congestion. The airlines of America have introduced cheap fares on their domestic routes this year, although they have done it on an orderly, advance-purchase basis rather than on stand-by, which obviates the need to spend several days camping out at the terminals.

A jumbo full of departing holidaymakers will normally exude a light-hearted, not to say a light-headed mood. The daily non-stop flight from New York to Las Vegas has a special quality, which anyone who has ever travelled on the train from Paddington to the races at Newbury can recognize easily.

No sooner had we unfastened our seat belts after take-off than the woman in front of me turned round to inquire whether the newspaper I was reading carried the racing results. On learning that it did she borrowed it, looked and returned it with an inscrutable expression.

She was in a group of four and a little later they agreed

(loudly) to have a game of poker. The woman turned to me again. "Do you want to join in?" she asked. Remembering the lessons of the Newbury race train, I declined decisively but luckily not too expensively to my impetuous youth, I declined. "You mean you don't know how to?" she persevered. "Oh, I know how to," I assured her. "That's why I'm not going to."

In retrospect, it seems unlikely that they were professional card sharps of the kind who victimized me all those years ago, because to judge from their talk during the flight, their attitude to gambling was too enthusiastic and naive. They were debating eagerly a strategy for their few days in America's gaming capital.

They would spend time at the slot machines, then play black jack (ponton) at one of the casinos, and craps (dice) at another where they had heard the facilities were better. As soon as we arrived, the keenest of them deviated from the master plan by making a headlong dash for the slot machines at the airport arrival gate, where local cognoscenti say the chances of winning are higher than on the machines in the casinos. Las Vegas claims to be

America's most popular holiday resort, which seems to prove that if you render something more attractive, more time more attractive. Because gambling is illegal elsewhere in the country (except for Nevada and, lately, New Jersey), hundreds of thousands of otherwise normal Americans have an irresistible urge to play in casinos.

Certainly there are few other reasons for going to Las Vegas in the summer. The temperature when we arrived was 110°F, normal for the season. The sun is soaked up by the expanses of concrete car parks and the cars which are crammed into them, acting like a giant storage heater. The nights are scarcely cooler—the only comfortable spots at any time are the dark and icily air-conditioned casinos.

I was there with my wife and eight-year-old son and, unlike most of the visitors, we had not gone to gamble, not to see the big film and television stars in cabaret. We had chosen it as a convenient starting point for a 2,000-mile motor tour of the west, taking in the Grand Canyon, part of the desert, Los Angeles, San Francisco, the California coast and the wine country.

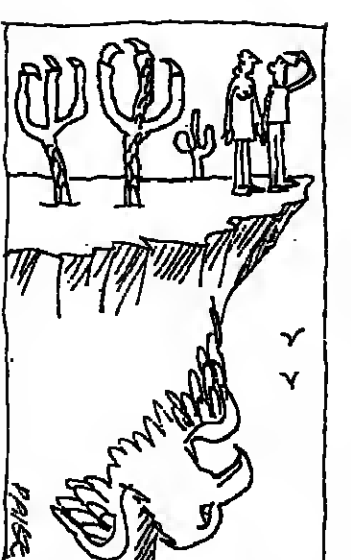
We survived our day in

Las Vegas by visiting one of the casinos which also have non-gambling slot machines for children: by journeying to the air-conditioned hire car to a scenic range of hills to the west (it was too hot to get out and walk around); and by driving down the strip after dark to see the illuminations, as folks do at Blackpool.

Next day we headed north-west, into the southern tip of Utah, making for Zion National Park, which one guide book calls the most spectacular of all this country's natural wonders—so ambitious a claim. The drive was for the most part through desert, relieved by the occasional green river valley, until we began to climb into the cooler foothills of the Rockies.

At Zion, in the late afternoon, it was cool enough to leave the car and walk for an hour or two among the extraordinary sandstone formations. At the approach of sunset a second walk, through a deep gulley between two steep ranges, was stupendously beautiful.

We were in for a more surprising treat when we returned to our hotel, one of the ubiquitous and inexpensive "Best Western" chain just outside the park entrance. The motel res-



taurant had been given a special tick for value in the Mobil Travel Guide, which we were to find a reliable mentor throughout the trip.

We had a short wait for a table; then it quickly became obvious why the place was so popular. Fresh river trout was on the menu, poached with a delicacy and served with fine-

flavoured Idaho potatoes. With soup and home-baked bread to start, and a good home-made blackberry pie to follow, the meal came to \$4.25. The really memorable meals I have eaten can be counted in single figures; this was one of them.

Fresh food is not always easily found in American restaurants but in this case the cook was clearly used to dealing with it. And, as we were to find wherever we travelled, a special pleasure of eating out in the west is that the service is invariably cordial and professional.

The culinary standard could not be maintained. The next night, at the north rim of the Grand Canyon, we found that, having failed to make dinner reservations shortly after dawn, the only place to eat within 50 miles was a despicable dirty canteen where the food looked old and unappetizing.

Still, one does not go to the Grand Canyon for the food but for the scenery, which was everything it is supposed to be. We chose the north rim because we had heard that the south, though more accessible, was surrounded by hotels and tourist paraphernalia. Of the 10 million people a year who

visit the canyon, only about 10 per cent go to the north rim, which is snowed-in for nearly half the year and is largely unpopulated.

The National Park Service's lodge is the only place to stay and we had to book in early spring, an unAmerican habit, to secure a room. Many go there in caravans and campers, but even they have to queue for spots in the camp grounds.

There are plenty of trails to walk and, at \$6,000, it was cool enough to walk them. Rangers give guided tours, explaining the flora and fauna. To get right inside the canyon is a day-long excursion on foot or by mule, which we felt we should not impose on an eight-year-old, let alone on his parents in their forties; but we climbed a part of the way down in the cool of the evening, just to say we had been.

As you would expect, the Park Service people show an overwhelming concern for the protection of the environment. But it is not always crystal clear how to protect the environment. One of the debates in progress is whether it is better to let forest fires burn away, or whether they should be extinguished.

The policy is to put them out, but some believe that

nature should be allowed to take its course and that the should-hurro, because they perform a valuable function of clearing away debris and adding nutrient to the soil. Passions run high on the question.

The concern for the environment extends to charging five cent deposit on all aluminium cans of beer and soft drinks sold from the park shops and vending machines, and giving a refund for their return. At the shop, a group of young children were making a hard profit by rounding up discarded cans and taking them in for the refund.

The young woman behind the counter paid out, but was clearly shocked by the commercialism behind the children's enterprise and their exploitation of the system. "I believe they came from New York," she confided in me, as though she claimed it all. New York is a long way from these wilderness areas. Before returning there we will have many miles of desert coastline to cover, exploring ancient Indian settlements, ghost towns and the more civilized wonders of Disneyland and the Hooper's castle. I shall tell you about those next week.

THE GREAT GAME OF CONTAINMENT

When Mr. George Kennan first proposed containment as a policy for limiting Soviet power in Europe the means were to be the military power of Nato and elsewhere. It was called "cold war". Later, military containment, both active and passive, seemed precisely the right answer to the revolutionary China believed (mistakenly) to be expansionist by virtue of the Korean war and (even more mistakenly) to be the power propelling Vietnamese communism. It is a very comment on the American mind that in the seventies it is China and the Soviet Union that have each been energetically trying to contain the other by many means other than the military confrontation, across the length of their inner Asian frontier. The signature on Saturday in Peking of a treaty with Japan was one gesture so intended by the Chinese; another even more direct one will be Mr. Hua Kuo-feng's visit this week to Bucharest and Belgrade.

Both these moves have aroused strong Russian resentment. The Sino-Japanese treaty hung fire from disagreement over the "hegemony" clause on which the Chinese insisted for plain political motives. When discussion was resumed this year Russian objections were reiterated, often with crude threats of a kind that few major powers would apply to another solely on account of its relations with a third country. The Japanese at all times denied any intention of an anti-Soviet gesture and have now got a text that absolves them. If the signature of the treaty nevertheless seems something of a victory for China, the Russians

have only themselves to blame for blowing up the issue.

The treaty as published reveals a compromise between the original Japanese demand that the statement on hegemony should immediately be followed by a disclaimer about the signatory countries' relations with any other countries. Instead this disclaimer is made a separate article stipulating that the clause on hegemony is not to be understood as affecting the position of either country's relations with third countries. Japanese opinion will probably find this acceptable and Mr. Fukuda should enjoy some improvement in his low political standing. The Japanese must certainly not want their relations with the Russians to be determined by China and it is significant that Japanese press comment urges some gesture by the government that will emphasize Japan's position. Nor can the importance of the treaty be calculated only as a move in China's game of containment. For both countries it terminates an unhappy period of Japanese relations going back to the early years of this century.

The Chinese will also appreciate this but their immediate jubilation will fasten on what they regard as a defeat for the Russians, smarting as they must be at last month's accession to Comecon by Vietnam. They will hope that this week's trip by Mr. Hua Kuo-feng to Bucharest and Belgrade will also bring a telling political reward. This is less certain. Neither the Romanians nor the Yugoslavs are likely to be brought closer to China in any tangible way. The timing of the visit will seem something of a reply to Vietnam's pro-Soviet

moves. Even more pointedly it will be the first visit of a Chinese national leader other than to Moscow, coming on the tenth anniversary of the invasion of Czechoslovakia; the occasion that transformed the Sino-Soviet dispute into a military confrontation and altered China's view of eastern Europe overnight.

Neither the Sino-Japanese treaty nor any probable outcome of Mr. Hua's visits, has any military character. Despite rumours, neither military alliances nor bases of any kind arise from Vietnam's Russian friendship or could follow Romanian or Yugoslav friendship with China. In all three of these smaller countries the gesture is important as a means of distancing themselves, of asserting independence—sometimes in sharp-edged spite, perhaps—as in Vietnam's moves against China and Romania's or Yugoslavia's against the Russians. Mr. Hua's forthcoming visit contributed no doubt to the "frank atmosphere" of Mr. Ceausescu's Black Sea meeting with Mr. Brezhnev last week.

That these moves of containment are primarily psychological and can thus be damaging to the countries is plainly admitted. The key issue is whether much attention is paid to propaganda. But neither the Chinese nor the Russians can press their claims to the point where countries that concern them can be driven to move beyond their own definition of national interest. The Japanese have certainly not done so. Nor will Mr. Ceausescu or President Tito or Mr. Le Duan in Hanoi, but all of them see what benefits can accrue from the containment game.

FEAR AND REPRESSION IN TUNISIA

The present series of trials of trade union leaders and militants in Tunisia is a source of concern and sadness to Tunisia's many friends in the West. The General Union of Tunisian Workers (UGTT), to which the accused belonged, is affiliated to the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU). Mr. Otto Kersten, the ICFTU's General Secretary, was in Tunis three days before the general strike of January 26, of which he expressed approval. He has now offered to go and testify at the trial of Mr. Habib Achour, the former general secretary of the UGTT, and vice-president of the ICFTU, which is expected to open in Tunis soon. He is prepared to argue that the UGTT was merely exercising the democratic right claimed by all workers everywhere to withdraw their labour in an effort to obtain better pay and conditions and to protect their rights.

In this case the specific purpose of the strike, as announced by the UGTT leaders, was to protest against the attacks on UGTT premises that had occurred throughout the country in the preceding days. It was in fact the culmination of a prolonged trial of strength between the union and the government, the latter being supported by the ruling Destourian Socialist Party (PSD). The government was alarmed by the increasing militancy of the union, which under

Mr. Achour's leadership had broken off its wage pact with the government and had supported a series of lightning strikes to improve pay and conditions. But the government's claim that the union leaders were preparing an insurrection was not on the whole carried conviction. It appears at least as likely that the party leader, Mr. Sayah, and the interior minister, Mr. Hannablia, had made up their minds in advance to use the police to break the union's strength and remove its leadership—presumably with the knowledge and approval of the prime minister, Mr. Hebi Moudira, if not of President Bourguiba himself, who is less and less able to play a direct part in government.

The arrest of all the leading figures in the union, at national and local level, was followed by the dismissal of many active trade unionists from their jobs and then the introduction of compulsory work camps for unemployed men between the ages of eighteen and thirty, which provided a convenient pretext for rounding-up potential trouble-makers. The trials began in July. So far, at two trials in Sfax, twenty young men have been given sentences ranging from four to thirty months while five UGTT regional officials were sent to prison for two years. (Three others got suspended sentences.) At the much larger trial still in progress in Sousse, the prosecu-

tor has actually asked for death sentences on thirty-nine of the 101 defendants, including the regional general secretary of the UGTT. Death sentences are not generally expected to be passed, but very heavy prison sentences are clearly likely. Moreover, many of the defendants have been extracted from their homes by medical checks, have been ignored. There are fears that the trial of the national leadership will now be held during Ramadan, and that Mr. Achour and others who are strict Muslims may have to go through days of cross-examination in the sweltering courtroom without food or drink. There are also reports that potential defence witnesses are being arrested.

Of course things just as bad or worse happen in most Arab countries. But Tunisia until now has seemed a particularly relaxed and civilized place where, if anywhere on the southern shore of the Mediterranean, democracy might gradually take root. Even now a moderate opposition is allowed to exist unofficially and to publish its own newspapers (though one is not advised to be seen reading them on the street). It must be hoped that Tunisia's underlying liberalism and decency will assert itself before the regime is irrevocably caught up in the wreckage of fear and repression.

David Wood

Labour and the trade union connexion

For any politician who still knows a haiku from a daisy in the rising fever of electioneering, there has been a run of three significantly inter-connected declarations by senior members of the Conservative Shadow Cabinet during the past few weeks on trade unionism. On July 20 Mr. Prior went to Clapham baths to make a long and careful speech to Lambeth Conservatives on the party's attitude to the government towards the trade unions. He promised that there would be no "union bashing" and no confrontation, but added that union leaders were not entitled to preach socialism for the whole of their movement, when demonstrably millions of trade unionists vote against the Labour Party. The business of government, he said, was to defend and promote the general national interest.

Mr. Prior made that speech at a time when the Shadow Cabinet were privately dreading the "it's" and crossing the "is" of the definitive Conservative manifesto for the general election. It therefore carried especial authority. We more on to last Monday, when Sir Geoffrey Howe took up the theme at Central Office before an audience of party workers. Sir Geoffrey went beyond Mr. Prior only in the emphasis he gave to the argument that the "politicization" of trade unionism, with the Parliamentary Labour Party and any Labour government as it pooled, amounted to a closed shop on electoral choice. He hinted at the need for a bill of disengagement between the trade unions and politics; it was a dangerous and undemocratic fiction to identify trade union interests with only one party.

Then on Thursday Mr. Whitelaw, the Conservative deputy leader, published a statement that attracted little or no interest. He rebuked Mr. David Barnett, chairman of the TUC, for the personal abuse with

which he responded to the Howe speech and his persecution of "the very mythology which we believe is so damaging".

Mr. Barnett's deep-seated assumption, he wrote, was that the Labour Movement was by definition correct on all issues, and that the essential qualification for any politician to lead the government was that he should ignore what people (including union members) felt about the present role and power of the unions. Mr. Whitelaw described the part of the trade unions as central to economic and social development, and hinted in a Baldwinian way, might not claim power on the basis of immunity from political debate.

We may safely come to a few conclusions after a study of the three speeches. Mr. Prior and the Shadow Cabinet recognize that, even after the passage of more than four years, there will be a lingering apprehension in the mind of the electorate that the policies of a Conservative government must lead to collision with trade union leaders who are personally committed to Labour and serve as Labour's paymaster before and during general elections. They believe that Labour leaders will pascuniously revive the echoes of battle between Mr. Heath and the miners to arrive 1974; and they quote Mr. Callaghan's dubious democratic tactical confidence: "We need time for the trade union secretaries to work up the anti-Tory campaign." Hostility to Labour, the Prime Minister no doubt reasons, is still in the air in the trade unionism, and that allittical swingman the Shadow Cabinet indignantly rejects.

Richard Crissman recorded in his diary the discussions of 1970 in which Mr. Callaghan and the Shadow Cabinet recognized that, even after the passage of more than four years, there will be a lingering apprehension in the mind of the electorate that the policies of a Conservative government must lead to collision with trade union leaders who are personally committed to Labour and serve as Labour's paymaster before and during general elections. They believe that Labour leaders will pascuniously revive the echoes of battle between Mr. Heath and the miners to arrive 1974; and they quote Mr. Callaghan's dubious democratic tactical confidence: "We need time for the trade union secretaries to work up the anti-Tory campaign." Hostility to Labour, the Prime Minister no doubt reasons, is still in the air in the trade unionism, and that allittical swingman the Shadow Cabinet indignantly rejects.

increased opting out from the union political levies; and Conservative trade unionist membership modestly climbs. It is not a heyday of trade unionism—recessions never are—except that a few powerful trade union leaders have been encouraged to feed their appetite for a one-party State and will pick up the tabs for the price of power.

In these circumstances it becomes, as the Prior, Howe, and Callaghan statements variously suggest, the strategy of the Conservative leadership once in government gradually to disconnect the TUC and the trade union movement from the Labour Party and its commitment to socialism. The Conservative Ministry could not enter into a Wilsonian "social contract" with organized labour so that the bounds could be called off in return for the power to renege on the contract. Clearly, no Conservative Ministry could reasonably hope to rewrite history and altogether disengage the TUC and the unions from Labour politics. Clearly, the trade unions would be stupid to surrender their power as paymasters for the Labour Party, even if they were to retain it only as a sanction or a threat. Clearly, the British trade unions are not soon going to forswear party politics so easily as the West German trade unions did a decade ago.

Yet the Prior formula, now established within the Shadow Cabinet, has a reasonable chance of prospering if it is given a chance. It has some history on its side, including the period 1951-59 (until the Selwyn Lloyd pay pause) and even most of the period 1970-73, when Mr. Heath saw more of the TUC economic committee than any other Prime Minister ever did. It has some trade union benefits on its side, in a day when a few union leaders would like to disentangle themselves from the political strait-jacket and get on with the work of their unions. It also has the democratic cause on its side.

But mark this: the logic of the strategy of Conservative disengagement from trade unionism should get a better bargain out of Mr. Thatcher, in terms of employment and rising standards of living, than they have got out of Labour. In other words, the success of the Conservative trade union strategy is bound up in the total strategy of Conservative economic success. That will not be easy or immediate.

The Sadat-Begin talks

From Lord Caradon.
Sir, We should not hesitate to admit President Carter's decision to invite President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin to make him in September the decision is so courageous because it is so dangerous. It is dangerous to President Carter's reputation if his personal intervention fails—and he must by now be fully aware of the difficulties—but it is equally dangerous to all concerned, most dangerous of all to Palestinian rights and to Israeli security.

Of the obvious dangers outright failure—a failure to achieve any agreement at all—would perhaps be least. Outright failure at Camp David would at least make everyone at last face up to the real issues.

Worse would be a separate peace between Egypt and Israel pretending to deal with the basic problems of Palestinian self-determination and the rights of the occupied Arab territories has provided the cover for the continued creeping "colonisation" of Arab lands.

The decade of delay has made a peaceful settlement far more difficult. The key issue is whether the Security Council Resolution 242, the abortive Geneva Conference, the fulfilment of subsequent so-called negotiations. While these deliberate delays have been perpetuated, the military occupation of the occupied Arab territories has provided the cover for the continued creeping "colonisation" of Arab lands.

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So it is that further delay is the greatest danger of all. I long ago called the Israeli settlements on the West Bank "signposts to destruction", they are the key issue. If after the Camp David meeting they are to continue then hopes of a lasting peace and Israeli security will have been thrown away.

The outline of a plan for peace is increasingly clear. It requires the free international agreement and careful winning acceptance of Palestinians and Arab states including Egypt, Jordan, Syria and Saudi Arabia, and enlisting also the support of the growing Peace Movement in Israel.

The first step is the recognition of Palestinian rights over their remaining lands. It is on the satisfaction of that test that the Camp David talks will be judged; and it is to be hoped that President Carter has not forgotten what he said a year before he took office.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH CARADON,
House of Lords.

Disruption to flights

From Mr. D. A. Jacobs.
Sir, Whilst it is common knowledge that the French air traffic controllers go slow, it has caused widespread delay to flights throughout Europe, what is perhaps not generally known is that on flights between Britain and France, and in particular those for example between London and Nice, the delay of flights flown by Air France was less than those flown by British Airways.

In consequence of this, as the British Airways officials at Nice will confirm, many passengers have been stranded by British Airways flights to Air France flights which the latter travelled absolutely full while in several cases the British Airways flights from Nice to London were more than half empty.

Has British Airways taken any action to reduce the apparent discrimination against itself in favour of Air France?

It is certainly ironic that the air traffic controllers' action is designed to bring pressure on the French Government and one would therefore expect they would cause maximum delay to Air France flights. I am sure that if they appear to favour Air France they are also discriminating against British Airways.

Yours sincerely,
D. A. JACOBS,
20 York Terrace West, NW1.

From Mrs A. N. Sanders.
Sir, It would be interesting to know if the promotion of those people, frustrated and miserable as a result of the French air traffic controllers' dispute, have caused misery and frustration to British people by their own delay and give help to the next five years.

Yours faithfully,
A. N. SANDERS,
3 Parkside Drive,
Old Catton,
Norwich.

Citizens' band radio

From Mr. K. Betts.
Sir, If there were a single obvious reason for the introduction of citizens' band radio in the country we would have had it long ago.

Dr. Caradon in his letter of July 20 points to the service to drivers and the increase in police efficiency engendered by CB. He could also have mentioned its value to the old, the injured and the housebound, providing social contact where none existed before.

Many members of the React teams (who monitor the CB channels 24 hours per day and give help of various kinds where necessary) are housebound: for one reason or another and CB provides them with social contact and, in some cases, an opportunity to be of some use to the community.

In a society where the infirm are increasingly isolated we need CB badly.

Yours truly,
KEN BETTS,
12 Draycott Road,
Chisleton,
Wiltshire.

Limitations to serious thought

From Mrs John D. Hughes.
Sir, The tone of the recent conference of distinguished academics at Sheffield (The Times, August 10) appears to have been disturbingly pessimistic and self-defeating, reaching out as it does to wider issues than the usefulness or futility of the launching of a new serious review.

From your report, one gathers that the most widely held view was that the cultural and intellectual level of British life is irredeemably low and that the majority of people are incapable of taking interest in anything but the most superficially dull and banal. It is a "Do-For-Yourself" (sic) and that for a hundred years we have been misled by critics like Arnold, T. S. Eliot and Leavis with their false idea of an educated and cultured society, which probably never existed at all.

There are assumptions and misunderstandings here that are positively dangerous in their invitation to those interested in ideas in education to despair about society. If we really believe that most people (unlike us of course) are not serious, then of course education is hopeless. It is a self-fulfilling prophecy. If we do not believe that people are worth educating, then we won't be able to give them any worthwhile education, and so we may as well get on with our specialisms and talk only to our colleagues.

But if we believe that people in a democratic society have a lot to do with learning, to speak to one another about serious matters, we must reject such defeatism. And here we have the support of Arnold and Leavis. (Eliot is a special case and can't be classified in this way with these two.) Who, for example, that knows and cares about adult education in this country could underestimate the vast influence of the two men? Their influence on serious intellectual standards and consistent opposition to the trivialisation of human beings and their potentialities, on generations of adult movers and their students? As for Matthew Arnold, far from being a wishful-thinking idealist about minority culture groups, the bulk of his thinking and writing on culture was presented as offering a tremendous task and a challenge, the greatest challenge, he thought, facing his generation, that of work to create a truly educated democracy.

The task and challenge are very much here with us. The majority of people in this country have not had a rich education and many a barely adequate one. Immense amounts of creative energy and conviction and stamina are required to give people the chance to reach standards of excellence. Our distinguished intellectuals are very much needed here to do as Arnold did in the 1870s, that is, to ask the right questions and to be "drugged" with books as he put it, help the individual to realize his capacities to the full.

Yours faithfully,
J. D. HUGHES,
Ruskin College,
Oxford,
August 10.

The Moscow Olympics

From Mr. Vladimir Bukovsky.
Sir, The political climate in the USSR is not appropriate for the atmosphere of the Olympic Games. During the International Olympic Regulations, do not permit the Games to be held in a country where there is civil unrest? The situation in the USSR where people are thrown into jail and psychiatric wards because of their beliefs and opinions is equivalent to that of a country where there is a state of emergency.

The holding of the Games in Moscow would create the impression that Western public opinion supports Soviet penal policy. The Soviet Government is free to do as it pleases with its citizens, restricts emigration, contravenes the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and manipulates its laws of conscription to punish young men who apply for visas and renounce Soviet citizenship.

The USSR intends to present a benign image of a nation which is all Games and no Gaid. The free West must not give respectability to an aggressive totalitarian regime. The Soviet Union will invite 2,000 athletes to Moscow, for pre-Olympic Games in 1979, but it has hinted that athletes from "un-

Art of restoring paintings

From Mr. D. E. Ward.
Sir, In the National Gallery at the present time there appears to be a strong programme for "restoration". The paintings are disappearing from the walls to reappear with a frightening rapidity and with a "restored" appearance.

First to alert my notice being two Claudes—David at the Cave of Adullam and The Marriage of Isaac and Rebecca. It must be obvious that these two paintings bear little resemblance to other Claude paintings. Gone is the overall "light" of the works, gone is the minute grading of colour which amounts to a complete picture. The blue of the sky jumps out against the dark mass of the trees, and the figures on the lower half leap out in separate patches of colour, an ultramarine The Marriage of Isaac and Rebecca. In fact, now, the paintings themselves are no longer Claudes but reproductions or imitations of Claude by another hand.

While I would not be so pedantic as to hold that no painting should be touched, however bad the condition and obscured the content, I would say that most of the recent "restoring" that I have observed has been particularly bad. In essence, particularly those done at the National Gallery over the last year or so, it is a matter of great concern to many of us who are interested in the art of painting, that highly valued paintings are being destroyed in this way with apparent confidence. I think it is time that the people concerned in this activity should have it brought to their attention that although many apparently comply and accept the so-called restoring, there are also a great many people, including artists and art historians, who very strongly object to it.

For this reason I think it should be halted and some discussion brought about before more is carried out. After all, the Claudes, do not belong to the experts, or in the National Gallery, but to all who perceive and value the work. I do not understand the objections, as only myself in their own way they are improving what they do. This is not to say that they are not argued, though, is that their perception should take precedence over that of anybody else to dictate the reality of a painting.

Yours faithfully,
D. E. WARD,
31 Clerdon Avenue,
Lisenden Gardens, NW2.

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Yours faithfully,
D. E. WARD,
31 Clerdon Avenue,
Lisenden Gardens, NW2.

Control of Walvis Bay

From Mr. Shuppa Kankungwa.
Sir, The future of Namibia (and indirectly that of the whole of Southern Africa) now appears to hinge on a single issue: Walvis Bay. Yet very little consideration has been given to the problem, as seen through Namibian eyes.

We are amazed at how widely and unquestioningly South Africa's claim to ownership of Walvis Bay is thought to be a legally watertight. Walvis Bay, it is argued, was allocated to Britain at the Treaty of Berlin in 1885, and subsequently given by Britain to South Africa.

Our position is clear: party to, nor consulted in, any colonial treaties signed away a piece of our territory, and therefore we do not recognize the legality of South Africa's "ownership".

(ii) Walvis Bay is Namibia's only deep-water port—the main outlet for no export goods, and 90 per cent of the country's exports. Control of it would undoubtedly give South Africa a stranglehold over Namibia's economy.

(iii) The enclave (which is an area of 432 square miles) includes the famous Swakopmund African military base at Roosikon.

We ask in all reason: Could a truly independent Namibia be conceivable with Walvis Bay under South African control?

Yours faithfully,
SHUPPA KANKUNGWA,
Chief Representative of the Western European of South West Africa People's Organization, NW1.

Petrol tax or car tax?

From The Reverend Canon G. A. C. Grice-Hutchinson.
Sir, Before the proposals in Mr. Stoker's letter today (August 5) for the replacement of road tax by an increased petrol tax, we should consider the difficulties of those who live "out-by", for instance, 35 or 50 miles from the nearest general hospital, 23 miles from the borough council offices, and so on. The difficulties and expenses of transport are already so great for my parishioners here, as in many other areas, because of the distances involved. Do not let us thoughtlessly add to them.

Yours faithfully,
G. A. C. GRICE-HUTCHINSON,
The Vicarage,
Northumberland.

Smiling at strangers

From Miss P. J. Carr.
Sir, They order these things better in Italy. My youthful habit of smiling at any passing gentleman under the age of five or thereabouts had because the recipient blushed or wept. But in Verona a tentative wink at a three-year-old Valentine was immediately returned in kind, with a devastating smile.

Yours faithfully,
P. J. CARR,
19 Greenway,
Harpenden, Hertfordshire.

Smiling at strangers

From the Rev. Dr. G. Richards.
Sir, If Mrs. John Miller (August 11) were a gentleman, the answer would be simple—wear a clerical collar.

Yours faithfully,
D. G. RICHARDS,
The Vicarage,
Arthor, Marlborough.

COURT CIRCULAR

HM YACHT BRITANNIA
August 12: The Queen gave a luncheon party on board HM Yacht Britannia at Scapa Bay, Orkney today at which the Prince of Wales was present. The following day the Queen and Prince of Wales left the island of Orkney for the island of Shetland. The Queen and Prince of Wales arrived at the island of Shetland on August 13. The Queen and Prince of Wales arrived at the island of Shetland on August 13. The Queen and Prince of Wales arrived at the island of Shetland on August 13.

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Fortcoming marriages

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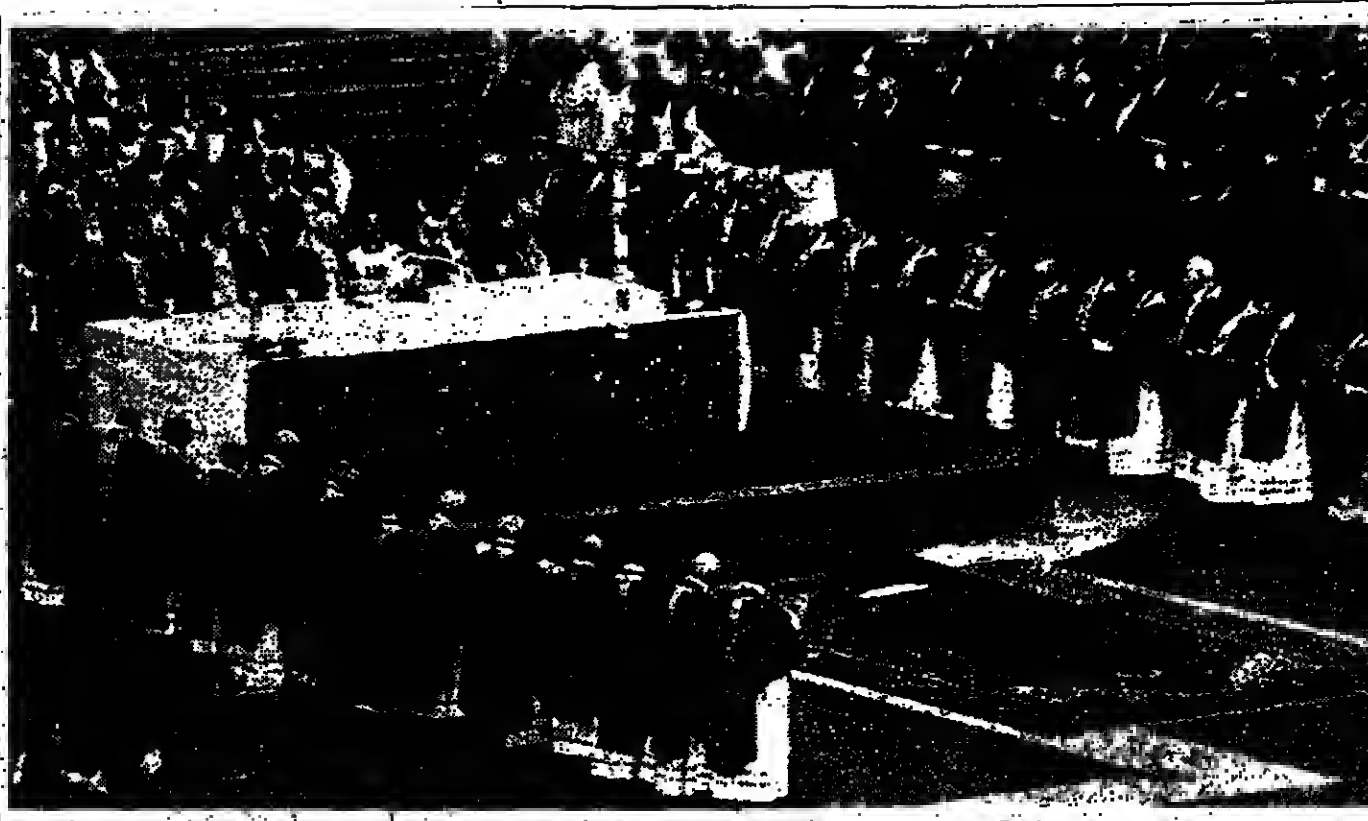
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The plain wooden coffin containing the remains of Pope Paul VI lies in front of an altar outside St Peter's Basilica.

Thousands file past papal tomb

Rome, Aug. 13.—Thousands of mourners filed past the simple tomb of Pope Paul VI today as cardinals prepared to elect a new leader for the world's 700 million Roman Catholics. The coffin lay in state in the Vatican Museums, where it was open to the public. The Pope's body was laid in state in the Vatican Museums, where it was open to the public. The Pope's body was laid in state in the Vatican Museums, where it was open to the public.

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'Criteria' for choosing new Pope

The following is the full text of the declaration by 10 Roman Catholic theologians on the criteria for the election of the next Pope. The world is divided, divided into two camps, the East and the West. The world is divided, divided into two camps, the East and the West. The world is divided, divided into two camps, the East and the West.

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'History of unrest' among staff in farm workers' union

The National Union of Agricultural and Allied Workers agrees that its regional organizers are "grossly underpaid" but resists the union's plan to raise wages. The union's plan to raise wages is "grossly underpaid" but resists the union's plan to raise wages. The union's plan to raise wages is "grossly underpaid" but resists the union's plan to raise wages.

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OBITUARY

MR NORMAN TUCKER

Services to English opera

Mr. Norman Tucker, CBE, who was the guiding spirit of Sadler's Wells (now English National Opera) during a vital period in its post-war development, died on June 10 at the age of 68. Tucker's achievement at Sadler's Wells included the nurture of a new generation of opera singers, the commissioning of new operas, and the expansion of the opera house into a major cultural institution. Tucker's achievement at Sadler's Wells included the nurture of a new generation of opera singers, the commissioning of new operas, and the expansion of the opera house into a major cultural institution.

Tucker was born in Wembley on April 24, 1910. He was educated at the Royal College of Music, where he studied for a diploma in music. Tucker was a pianist, a conductor, and a composer. He was a pianist, a conductor, and a composer. He was a pianist, a conductor, and a composer. He was a pianist, a conductor, and a composer.

Tucker was appointed CBE in 1956 and was made a Governor of the Royal Ballet in 1957. After his retirement from Sadler's Wells he continued to work in the field of music, including the founding of the English National Opera. Tucker was a pianist, a conductor, and a composer. He was a pianist, a conductor, and a composer. He was a pianist, a conductor, and a composer.

HERBERT RIESER

With art collecting becoming a form of investment and pieces of tribal art achieving staggering prices at auction, we have forgotten the old-fashioned collector whose treasures reflected his dreams, his needs, and his spirit. Herbert Rieser, who died last month, was just such a person, always relating objects to the craftsmen who made them and the craftsman to his society. He would lose himself in wonder at the discovery of a new style in art, and he would travel extensively in Africa, meeting and living with the people whose work now astonishes the art world.

25 years ago

From The Times of Thursday, Athens, Aug. 12.—Greek naval authorities reported tonight that the Greek battleship *Agamemnon* had been sunk by a German submarine in the Aegean Sea. The *Agamemnon* was on a voyage from Athens to the island of Rhodes. The Greek naval authorities reported tonight that the Greek battleship *Agamemnon* had been sunk by a German submarine in the Aegean Sea.

Science report

Environment: Lead pollution

Lead has relatively little organized presence in the environment, but it has been found in a wide variety of sources, from leaded petrol to leaded paint. Lead has been found in a wide variety of sources, from leaded petrol to leaded paint. Lead has been found in a wide variety of sources, from leaded petrol to leaded paint.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

New study sees dom declining it trade figures healthy state

Westlake
... forecasts now
... Treasury
... confirm a
... weakening
... boom from
... the end of this
... also point to a
... balance of payments
... unpublished forecasts
... recently landed on the
... Mr. Denis Healey, the
... the floor, apparently show
... Britain's economy during
... months will be per-
... broadly along the
... predicted at the time of
... ng Budget.

... is this year's sharp rise
... standards comes to an
... Chancellor will come
... increasing pressure to
... for new tax hand-

... effects of the recent tax
... on standards of living
... off in coming
... and private consump-
... drop in 1979 to less
... of the peak levels of
... during the current

... is because, on present
... look like dropping back
... from the 6 or 7 per
... that is occurring in
... the wake of declining
... and tax concessions.

... the key deter-
... of what happens to the
... in 1979 is the level
... in Phase Four
... Government's incomes

... nings rise by no more
... overall 7 per cent
... ight by the Cabinet,
... ups of workers could
... their post-tax pay is
... increasing more slowly
... rate of inflation—at
... a time.

... is more likely that
... will rise by more
... cent. In fact, some
... economic forecasters
... acting Phase Four to
... an increase of be-
... and 13 per cent, com-
... the 14 per cent rise
... use Three.

... because the Govern-
... per cent target—5 per
... straight pay awards
... case for self-financ-
... activity deals and the
... of some anomalies—
... account of so-called
... drift—resulting from
... and changes of

Treasury study of Tory strategy

... the Atkinson
... versions of the public
... plans for the next
... are now being
... inside the Treasury
... there is an autumn

... embodies the proposals
... the present Govern-
... the other is more
... with the known views
... the five leadership,
... ment—departments
... are expected for sudden
... changes in the Opposi-
... tions' power.

... normal spending White
... usually published at
... of the year, so much
... work on it has to be
... ring the summer and
... autumn.

... Conservatives won an
... election they would
... certainly want to make
... is in the Labour
... en's plans for the
... of the public sector.

... some discussion in
... Treasury, ministers
... studied the planned
... growth
... cent a year in public
... volumes as laid down

... in the last White Paper. This
... would be pushed forward for
... a year in the next five-year
... period. If Labour
... were still in office.

... Any spending over and above
... the planned programmes would
... come out of the contingency
... reserve. This has now shrunk
... to £200m as a result of the many
... claims made on it since last
... January.

... About half of the original
... £1,500m reserve fund has gone
... in job-creation measures and the
... Budget increases in child bene-
... fits and social security.

... A recent cabinet decision to
... postpone a September increase
... in the cost of school meals will
... also be borne by the contin-
... gency fund.

... The Conservatives have said
... that their longer term aim is to
... cut the public sector back to
... its level—in real terms—of
... 1977-78. This would involve
... losing about £4,000m net of
... spending.

... The main areas where cuts
... would be implemented are in
... subsidies to industry and
... employment under the trade,
... industry and employment pro-
... gramme, and housing subsidies.

... A Conservative adminis-
... tration would want to increase
... spending on defence and law
... and order.

... Sir Geoffrey Howe, shadow
... Chancellor, has denied reports
... that Tories have worked out in
... detail an alternative public
... expenditure White Paper. They
... will not make up their minds on
... details until they assume office.

... Some scope for paring down
... wastage in all programmes is
... expected by the Conservatives
... despite the fairly drastic cuts
... in public spending in recent
... years since the introduction of
... cash limits. They believe that
... the return to rapid growth in
... spending this year will tend to
... lead to more wasteful spending.

... Labour ministers have been
... content to agree to the 2 per
... cent limit on spending growth,
... despite some fairly strong re-
... quests for more money,
... especially from the Department
... of Health and Social Security.

... There appears to be little
... interest in long-term plans at
... the moment when all eyes are
... on a possible election in Sep-
... tember. Mr. Joel Barnett, Chief
... Secretary to the Treasury, in-
... tends to have another look at
... the present state of work on the
... White Paper in September.

Consumers seek tighter rein on price agreements

By Derek Harris
Commercial Editor
Stiffer penalties for
companies infringing the Restrictive
Trade Practices Act—as by
secret price-fixing—were urged
yesterday by the National Con-
sumer Council.

Stronger powers were also
urged for the Director-General
of Fair Trading to make in-
vestigations. These should include
the power to enter premises and
seize documents, although there
should be qualifications to protect
individual liberties, the NCC
added.

The Act should be changed
also to make it unnecessary for
the Director-General to have
evidence of an unregistered re-
strictive practice before being
able to call for such evidence
from companies that he believes
are operating such an agree-
ment, states the NCC.

The NCC also suggests ways
in which it would be easier for
public sector bodies or con-
sumer organizations to take
action against companies operat-
ing unregistered agreements.

An increased threat of civil
action would be a deterrent to
companies which might at pre-
sent feel there was only a trivial
penalty in not registering an
agreement.

The NCC is concerned at the
number of previously unregist-
ered restrictive agreements
which have come to light in
the past few years such as in
the baking, cable manufacture
and ready-mixed concrete indus-
tries.

"The widespread and persis-
tent practice of parallel pricing
leads to more than a suspicion
that industry is much more ex-
tensively riddled with such
agreements than has previously
been thought," says the NCC.

The wide range of profes-
sional services at present
exempt under the Act should be
brought within its scope, it
urges. Legislation against resale
price maintenance should also
be tightened up to prevent
"shadow versions" of retail
price maintenance such as a
minimum advertised price.

The NCC attacks industry
opposition in favour of a relaxa-
tion of the restrictive trade
practices law which has been voiced
within the National Economic
Development Council.

Vigorous disagreement with
government proposals aimed at
toughening up competition
policy has emerged within this
forum, particularly from trade
unions and the Department of
Industry.

A government green paper
has already suggested a more
critical approach to merger
policy, and a further paper is
due soon on restrictive trade
practices.

Varley talks today with union and Whitehall officials on implications of Chrysler takeover

By Edward Townsend
Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of
State for Industry, and a team
of Whitehall motor industry
experts today begin a series of
top level meetings to study the
implications of the proposed
acquisition by Peugeot-Citroen
of Chrysler's European opera-
tions.

It will be the turn of
national union officials to dis-
cuss with Mr Varley today the
probable effect on jobs, and
later in the week executives of
the French company will be
brought in.

The National Enterprise
Board, which owns BL (for-
merly British Leyland) and Mr
Michael Edwards, the Leyland
chairman, are expected to be
consulted fully before the Gov-
ernment decides its attitudes
towards the deal.

Implications for BL are con-
siderable. At a time when the
company is struggling to re-
gain its lost market share, the
Chrysler sale will give the
French access to modern
United Kingdom car
assembly facilities and to
Chrysler's national dealer
network.

Speculation that the Chrysler
deal may risk BL into seeking
a European partner is being

dismissed within the company.
It is felt that Mr Edwards has
enough in mind to rebuild BL
without having to face the
complex business of negotiat-
ing with a competitor.

Mr Varley will be pressed by
the unions today to insist that
if the proposed sale takes
place, the French company will
likely in seek undertakings
from the unions.

Mr Varley's conclusion, and
his subsequent recommenda-
tions to the Cabinet, are not
expected for several weeks. It
seems likely, however, that a
renewed "of the 1976
agreement with the Chrysler
Corporation, transferring the
responsibilities to the French
group, is on the cards.

Chrysler UK has had £51m
of state grants under the
agreement to cover losses and
loans totalling £30m to finance
capital investment.

Mr Ken Gill, general secre-
tary of the AUEW technical,
administrative and supervisory
group, said at the weekend
that before the original agree-
ment was drawn up Chrysler
offered its United Kingdom
operations to the Government
for nothing.

Instead of accepting them
and integrating them with
British Leyland, more than £100m

must cooperate. We are not
simply pawns in a game."

Mr Frank Chapple, general
secretary of the Electrical,
Electronic, Telecommunications
and Plumbing Union, said he
believed that following
demands for guarantees the
French company was itself
likely to seek undertakings
from the unions.

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his subsequent recommenda-
tions to the Cabinet, are not
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operations to the Government
for nothing.

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and integrating them with
British Leyland, more than £100m

of public money had been
handed over to the American
company.

"There is only one means of
ensuring security of employ-
ment, a future for an expan-
ding British industry and the
protection of public funds—
nationalize Chrysler UK with-
out compensation and integrate
with Leyland Cars."

A Government veto on the
Peugeot-Citroen deal for
Chrysler would pose prob-
lems of considerable import-
ance within the European Economic
Community, Mr Tam Dalyell,
Labour MP for West Lothian,
said yesterday.

Mr Dalyell, a member of the
European Parliament, also
said: "Before people start giv-
ing any thumbs down to the
proposition they would do well
to pause and reflect on the
alternatives since the status
quo is not on the cards."

Commenting on suggestions
that Chrysler's Scottish plant
at Lanark should go to Ley-
land, Mr Dalyell said: "For
pity's sake let Leyland have a
breathing space, so sort out its
own problems."

Carter aide chides US pundits for pessimism

President Carter's ratings in
the opinion polls these days
are low and partly attest to
widespread anxiety over the
nation's economic prospects.

Foreigners, too, are cur-
rently in a pessimistic mood,
markets are any guide, also
appear none too confident
about the outlook for the
American economy or the
ability of the Administration to
deal effectively with the
country's economic ailments.

As last week ended there
were more developments likely
to add to the gloom and doom
atmosphere. President Carter
bid his goodnight to the
House of Representatives, found himself
embroiled in yet another dis-
pute with American trade
union leaders, and even the
latest inflation statistics
brought him little cheer.

In such an environment the
Congress decided some time
ago to consult the experts for
a sweeping perspective on the
future.

The awesome task
of summarizing the views of such
pundits as Mrs Margaret Mead,
Professor John Kenneth Gal-
braith, Professor Jay Forrester,
Mr Isaac Asimov and Dr Her-
man Kahn, fall to Dr Alice
Rivlin, the director of the Con-
gressional Budget Office.

Congress's most prominent
economist admitted that she
approached her task with some
repugnance, and her summary
suggested both a healthy dose
of scepticism and a welcome
display of humour.

She pointed out that of the
15 experts consulted by the
Congress only Professor Gal-
braith was an economist by
training: "It occurs to me
that economists might draw
larger audiences than they
deserve, but they are the only
subjects they knew very little
about—like nuclear physics."

The social and physical
sciences in the group dis-
played both an eagerness to
comment on economic affairs
and a palpable dislike for
economics.

Dr Rivlin said that those
who stressed the need to
attach more importance to
human values, rather than
material values, embraced
"the idea that economists are
anti-human because they work
with costs and things that can
be counted, and not with the
intangibles of life."

Some went much further,
according to Dr Rivlin. There
appeared to be considerable
support for the thesis that
society as we know it may well
be coming apart at the seams.

Professor Forrester, who has
become a prominent advocate
of long-wave economic cycles,
was fairly mild in voicing
despair that "industrial coun-
tries are in a period of grow-
ing economic instability."

Dr Herman Kahn has never
been short of long-range ideas
to save mankind, and has
shocked at least one Congress-
man by proposing to turn a
large part of Colorado into a
national industrial resource
park and mining the shale in
it. This is an idea that cer-
tainly would win supporters in
the oil industry.

Dr Rivlin was apparently un-
convinced by all the pessimism
of the futurists. She was not
quite sure what conclusions
the Congress could draw from
all the expert opinions or if
these opinions could help it in
formulating legislation.

She admitted that the argu-
ments made would undoubtedly
be like a response to the
many Americans who she
said: "I recently spent three
weeks in the People's Republic
of China, where the atmo-
sphere is extremely different."
"I do not believe that a
gloom and doom speaker could
hold an audience even if he
were allowed a platform."

That remark, of course, may
serve as a lesson to the pes-
simists in Congress.

Frank Vogel
in Washington

Tokyo rebuff to UK car negotiations

Leaders of the Japanese
motor industry, upset by what
they see as continuing antag-
onism in the United Kingdom
over car sales, may refuse
to reconvene talks with
British car industry leaders
this year.

The Society of Motor Manu-
facturers and Traders, which
was expecting to reopen discus-
sions next month with the
Japanese Automobile Manufac-
turers Association, said at the
weekend that no dates for the
Tokyo meeting had been sup-
plied by JAMA "and we don't
think we will be going."

Sir Barrie Heath, president
of the SMMT, is understood to
be available to lead the
society's delegation to Tokyo at
the end of September, and the
British car industry and Japan
the Japanese that it would
welcome further discussions.

Previous talks have not been
confined to the car imports
controversy but have ranged
across the whole issue of
motor industry relations be-
tween the United Kingdom and Japan,
involving the export by Britain
of components and accessories
and Japan's exhaust emission
regulations.

Despite the unprecedented
assurances from the Tokyo
Governments in March that the
country's share of the United
Kingdom market was "confi-
dently expected" to decline
in 1978, the penetration has
risen in the first seven months
to 10.8 per cent from 10.6 per
cent a year earlier.

Car sales have been bound-
ed by more than 40 per cent,
while the total market has grown
by 22 per cent.

Japanese industry officials
stress that the restraint on
import of cars from Japan
did not bring to bite until the
end of April. It is now felt
that their share of the market
for the whole of 1978 could
fall to below 9 per cent.

In the meantime, the Japan-
ese manufacturers have been
renewing their responsibility to
the big United Kingdom dealer
networks and the need to state
of further political pressure—
are reluctant to air the argu-
ments at another meeting with
the British industry.

Shipments are being moni-
tored closely by Japan's
Ministry of International
Trade and Industry, but the
car makers are under no obli-
gation to restrict sales.

Pressure for firm restrictions
on Japanese car sales may in-
crease further at the end of
this month when it is expected
that the home market will total
250,000—an August record.

PO peace feelers as service delays spread

By Patricia Tisdall
As peace talks start between
the Post Office and officials of
its engineering union this
morning, disruption to postal
as well as the telephone ser-
vice is growing.

Business users are complain-
ing that delivery vans and other
mechanical equipment have led
to significant hold-ups in
second class letter and parcel
traffic.

According to Mr Michael
Corby, director of the Mail
Users Association, the indica-
tions are that the percentage
of first class mail delivered each
day after posting has now fallen
to below 90 per cent.

The BBC which paid almost
£7m to the Post Office for the
use of outside broadcast lines,
telephone calls and other ser-
vices last year, has had many
of its first class mail deliveries
severely disrupted during the
past two months.

Hardest hit are sports pro-
grammes, live radio pro-
grammes, church services and
any Questions.

The Mail Users Association
said it is carrying out its own
survey is angry at the lack of
information provided by the
Post Office. Throughout the
dispute, it says, the corpora-



Mr Michael Corby: anger at
lack of information.

tion has taken the line that
matters are "at a very delicate
stage and avoided comment."

Mr Andrew Brode, a director
of Crozer Publications, which
distributes reference material to
around 90,000 businesses each
month, said that the flow of
payments from subscribers had
dropped by about 10 per cent
during the past six weeks.

The Post Office, too, has suf-
fered a great loss of business.
It has a waiting list of some
13,000 potential customers
waiting for installation of new
equipment.

The £50m worth of telecom-
munications equipment lying
idle represents an annual loss
of about £6.5m on interest
rates calculated at 13 per cent.
Further similar losses which
could be as high as £13m arise
from delays in implementing
the letter modernization pro-
gramme.

Mead group chief spurns \$750m bid by Occidental

By Alison Mitchell
Mead Corporation, the
American paper and wood
products group, has initially
rejected a surprise bid from
the United States oil company
Occidental Petroleum. Mr J.
McSwiney, chairman of
Mead, has told shareholders
that the offer of preferred
stock is not in their best in-
terests.

However, the group's invest-
ment and legal advisers are
still studying the terms.

Occidental, which recently
announced it was pulling out
of all its refinery interests in
Europe, refuses to put a value
on the complex deal. Some
analysts estimate it to be
worth about \$80m, which
could make it one of the lar-

gest United States takeovers
this year.

Occidental, with large North
Sea interests, is offering to
exchange each Mead common
share for 0.26 of its preferred
shares plus a \$10 dividend and
0.07 of its convertible pre-
ferred shares, plus a \$7.50
dividend.

This latter would be con-
vertible into Occidental common
shares at a premium of approxi-
mately 20 per cent more than
the market value during an
agreed period. Voting and
liquidation powers are also
included in the terms.

Occidental has said it would
welcome another meeting with
Mead so that a mutually
satisfactory agreement "can be
arrived at quickly."

Largest gasfield has 10th birthday

Sea gas had a tenth
yesterday.
Just 12, 1968, the first
the Leman field, the
first gasfield in the
lugged into the Bacton
gas centre in Norfolk.
The field, operated by Shell
and Production, is one
of itself and Esso, and
shares with the Ameri-
co group, is still the
chief offshore producer.
It began on Decem-
ber 1965, when a well was
in 120 feet of water,
discovered in Permian
stone 6,500ft down.
In past 10 years the gas
led through a 30-inch
high pressure pipeline
where impurities have
moved before delivery to
gas.

In brief

materialize. The survey fore-
casts another fall in employ-
ment in the financial year end-
ing next June.

British piano challenge
to Far East imports
Kemble's, Britain's largest
manufacturer of pianos, has
introduced two new models—
the Senator, from £1,305 and the
MK at £950.

Mr Robert Kemble, joint
managing director, says he is
confident the two new pianos
will help fight off the challenge
of Far East exports which have
been making inroads in tradi-
tional British markets.

Marriott wins £8.5m
building award
Robert Marriott, a member of
the French Kier building
group, has won four contracts
together worth more than
£8.5m. The largest, valued at
£3.2m, is to build 264 dwellings
at Camp Hill, Northampton, for
the Northampton Development
Corporation.

Other contracts are for Milton
Keynes Development Corpora-

tion, Corby Development Cor-
poration and Midland Meat
Packers.

Russia and Uruguay
buy UK dairy plant
Vickers-Dawson, of Cleck-
heaton, Yorkshire, has won
orders worth £2.2m from Russia
and Uruguay for dairy bottling
plant.

The larger of the two con-
tracts, worth £1.8m, was ob-
tained through Technoprompro-
ject, the Soviet purchasing mis-
tery, for the Leningrad Pro-
duction Association for the milk
industry. The second order is
for Dairy Conaprole in Monte-
video.

Italian nuclear group
raises £15m loan
Italy's Ansaldo Meccanico
Nucleare SPA of Genoa, the
nuclear and thermal power
engineering subsidiary of the
Finmeccanica group, signed a
medium-term loan agreement
for \$15.7m (about £8m) in
London yesterday.

The seven-year Eurocurrency
loan, which will support a
specific export project being
undertaken by Finmeccanica,
was arranged and managed by
Bank of Tokyo, Detroit
(Internationally) Ltd and Wells
Fargo.

Laing hopes for share in £2,500m Saudi contract

By Jobo Huxley
An Anglo-American con-
sortium of contractors believes it
is still in the running to win a
contract worth up to £2,500m
to build a university complex
at Riyadh, Saudi Arabia,
although it is understood a
French group has submitted
a lower bid.

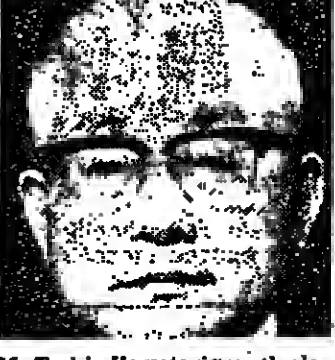
The consortium is being led
by Laing Wimpey Alireza, a
joint venture established in
1967. Associates are Sir Alfred
McAlpine, International Termi-
nals, a subsidiary of Taylor
Woodrow, Matthew Hall,
Crown House and two Ameri-
can companies, Fishbach and
Moore, and Howard P. Foley.

Together they offer expertise
in building, and civil, mechan-
ical and electrical engineering.
The contract, for which there
has been strong international
competition, is likely to be
awarded within the next few
months.

British contractors are
always loath to discuss per-
spective contracts, but they still
hope that, largely on the basis
of its management proposals
the group can win what would
be far and away the largest
British project overseas.

Laing Wimpey Alireza has
completed about £100m of work
in the middle East.

Japan aims to treble \$4,000m imports surge



Mr Toshio Komoto: growth plan

Tokyo, Aug. 12.—Japan's
emergency import programme
for the fiscal year ending next
March is to be raised to
\$12,500m (£5,500m) from
\$4,000m. Mr Toshio Komoto,
the International Trade and
Industry Minister, told a press
conference today.

Mr Komoto said the plan was
worked out at special talks
with Mr Kichiji Miyazawa,
director-general of the Econo-
mic Planning Agency, in con-
nection with the September 2
meeting of Cabinet economic
ministers.

Both are members of the
council which last month de-
cided on the emergency imports
of at least \$4,000m.

Mr Komoto has previously
called for emergency imports
in excess of \$10,000m to meet
the targets pledged by Mr
Takeo Fukuda, the Prime
Minister, at last month's Bonn
economic summit.

Mr Komoto said he agreed
with Mr Miyazawa to boost the
programme with additional
imports of mineral products,
including uranium concen-
trates and aircraft.

The \$12,500m target would
include \$5,000m worth of
mineral and energy resources,
\$900m of oil for stockpiling on

idle tankers and \$1,300m of
aircraft for leasing abroad.

It also included \$600m of
plant barges for leasing, \$800m
of aircraft for domestic airlines,
\$3,500m of ships built by over-
seas subsidiaries of Japanese
shipping lines, \$100m of large
medical equipment and \$300m
other items, including aircraft
for government use.

They also agreed to apply
the foreign currency exchange
system from the semi-official
Export-Import Bank of Japan
to overseas resources develop-
ment projects to be undertaken
by Japanese companies, Mr
Komoto added.—Reuter.

Memorex fails in IBM suit

San Francisco, Aug. 13.—A
United States District Court
judge has dismissed a \$918m
anti-trust suit against Interna-
tional Business Machines
brought by Memorex Corpora-
tion.

Judge Samuel Conti said he
was granting IBM's motion for
a directed verdict and found
that "as a matter of law the
record in this case cannot jus-
tify a verdict by a reasonable
jury in favour of Memorex."

A long jury trial ended on
July 6 with the jury dead-
locked.

Memorex's action, begun in
1973, alleged that IBM tried to
eliminate competition in data
processing by unfair leasing
practices and predatory pricing
in the sale and leasing of per-
ipheral computer equipment.

IBM said Memorex

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

The clearing banks and the corset

This Wednesday brings the make-up day for the August banking month, the first crucial month for determining where the banks stand in relation to the banking "corset". To recap briefly, the aim of the corset is to restrict the growth in the banks' IBELS, their interest bearing eligible liabilities, or, more simply, the bulk of their interest bearing sterling deposits. The effect of this should be to restrain the expansion in bank lending and the resultant creation of new deposits that would then add to the money stock.

The general assumption remains, however, that it is going to be tough and go as to whether the banking system as a whole will be able to ease itself inside the corset in time, the problem being particularly acute for the clearing banks. The clearers do not publish their IBELS individually or collectively, but it has been all too clear recently that their collective position has been made far from comfortable. Borrowers appear to have been switching back to their principal bankers—the full extent of this should become clearer with the publication of the full July banking figures on Thursday—either because short-term funds were becoming more difficult to obtain from other sources or because base rate related lending has been cheaper than lending geared to relatively high money market rates.

At the moment, the main point to emerge is that many of the clearers feel that it is particularly difficult to estimate just where they will stand vis-à-vis the corset come the early autumn. It may be that the recent fall in money market rates will reverse at least part of the recent switch into overdraft borrowing; it may be that the underlying demand for credit will ease off through September and October; it may be that the authorities will give the banks all the flexibility they can by further deferring special deposit calls if necessary.

It may also be that most of the clearers are not too perturbed at the possibility of being marginally outside the corset. The initial penalties that require 5 per cent of any excess of up to 3 per cent in IBELS to be placed with the Bank in the form of Supplementary Special Deposits are anything but prohibitive. It is only above the 3 per cent excess that the penalties become unacceptably expensive.

Even so, if the situation did arise in which (by and large) the only major sector in the excess zone turned out to be the clearers, it will be interesting to see what the clearers have to say. While they do not like the corset as a control mechanism, they do at least accept that it is a better system than straight lending controls—though possibly less good than a cash ratio system for controlling the banking system. What is irking several at the moment, however, is the accusation that they are merely boisterous with their own window dressing. They prefer to think that the Government has simply given too little recognition to the strength of potential credit demand this year.

Motor components More difficult times ahead

The new "T" registration suffix, which came in at the start of August, has by all accounts prompted record levels of new car buying, and registrations for the year as a whole look well set to grow by a fifth or more to something in excess of 1.6 million. That would be the highest since 1973. The evident buoyancy is not, however, reflected in vehicle production which, on the basis of last week's provisional figures, shows a rise of barely 1 per cent in the first seven months of this year.

The inability of home producers to satisfy home demand, and the consequent rise in market share held by importers is, of course, disturbing news for component suppliers. Hitherto they have ridden out the increase in imports' share of the market, chiefly because of a strong export performance and a buoyant replacement market, which is where the best profit margins are generally achieved. But it now looks increasingly as though the component suppliers will see a deterioration in trading conditions in the months to come.

First, it seems likely that car registrations next year will fall from this year's high level. How this might relate to production is subject always to strike action, but stockbroker Laing & Cruickshank, in an un-

usually bearish report, estimates that importers will again increase their share of the market, that the steady decline of world export market share held by British producers will continue further, and that vehicle production will be down by 6 per cent. A further adverse factor is that vehicle production throughout Europe is expected to decline next year.

Meanwhile, the climate in the replacement market will also be deteriorating. In recent years many of the big component producers have set up their own wholesale distribution chains and price competition has been building up to the detriment of margins. The Price Commission's inquiry into car spare parts seems likely to restrain prices further.

Moreover, L & C argues that replacement demand will be growing much more slowly—it calculates 4 per cent in total in the three years 1978-80—because the number of some produced cars on the road which are older than four years is now actually declining. Much of the recent growth in the replacement part market has related to the fact that cars bought in the boom years of 1972 and 1973 were reaching the age where they were requiring a steady stream of new parts.

The end conclusion is that both this year and next year profits growth in the motor components sector will fall behind that of industry as a whole and that, by implication, share prices will tend to underperform the market. Those companies with big export content, which will suffer from the pound's relative strength, will be the most vulnerable unless they are significant suppliers of the motor industry in the developing world where the growth potential remains substantial compared to Europe.

International lending

The pressures on spreads

There is still far too much money chasing too few loans in international lending markets. In part that simply reflects plentiful liquidity at a time when sluggish economic activity has meant low loan demand. But it is also the result of the structural changes in international banking over the past few years which provide some of the answers as to why spreads on international loans have been driven down to today's rock-bottom levels.

For the past couple of years the big United States money-centre banks have been going through a great deal of internal reorganization so as to attack international loans. This has been mainly as a result of the restrictions on their further expansion at home, but it has also been due to the growth of the commercial paper market which has seduced many of their big multinational borrowers away. At the same time the only real area to show any worthwhile growth since the 1973-74 collapse—the Eurocurrency markets—has attracted a disproportionate amount of attention from the big European banks, including (albeit late in the day) our own British clearers.

Recent results from German and Swiss banks have underlined how difficult it has been to show any profits growth domestically, a picture mirrored by the half-yearly figures from the British clearers and, last Friday, from two of the biggest Dutch banks as well.

Faced with this, it has been the European banks that have been making the biggest push in the international market this year, and the push has had to be even greater to get the same level of profits as at home because of the strength this year of European currencies against the dollar. In contrast the United States banks have not seen quite the same pressure on account of rising lending business at home with the surge in business activity and a mounting corporate deficit. Quite when all this will balance out in an end to the pressure on spreads is anyone's guess, especially with the Japanese banks starting to show what they are made of in the fine rates they recently granted on the Electricity Council's loan. But the big United States banks, like Bank of America and Citicorp, have become increasingly reluctant to engage in loans where the spread is down to the 1 per cent level now common although none will admit to this publicly for fear of losing business where management fees may make it attractive or existing banking relationships could be ruptured.

Hongkong, Aug 13

I am due to arrive back in London from Peking tomorrow with one basic message from the Chinese leaders: they want to do business with Britain. But there is a highly competitive market and they will judge the competition on its merits.

So, on behalf of the 13 leading British businessmen I invited to join me on my visit, I have an equally simple message for British industry. The Chinese have ambitious development programmes. We must make a speedy and competitive response to the positive reception we received in China.

The backdrop to the visit was a fundamental shift in Chinese policy. Despite the continued pursuit of Chairman Mao's basic philosophy of self-reliance, the present Chinese leadership know that they need a significant element of foreign cooperation if they are to raise sufficiently rapidly the living standards of their people—one quarter of the world's population.

The signs were already there before my party rendezvoused in Hongkong. Five Chinese ministers with economic and industrial responsibilities have been to the United Kingdom in the past nine months. I was to be the third British Cabinet minister to visit China since the spring.

The Chinese have recently signed a trade agreement with the Japanese, their biggest business partner. They are developing trade links with the United States without waiting for diplomatic "normalization". The importance they attach to relations with western Europe is a view which we share.

In four days of official talks in Peking we had many hours of informal meetings with Mr Li Hsien-nien, a veteran of the long march who has been a Vice-Premier for more than twenty years and is one of the main driving forces behind their new economic strategy. Our host Mr Li Ch'ang, Minister of Foreign Trade, Mr Huang Hua, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and eight other economic and industrial ministers.

In addition, the businessmen and my officials penetrated beyond these top policy decision-makers to begin to discuss new ideas and contracts. As well as continuing negotiations already under way—with the leaders and technical experts of state trading organizations. The present 10-year economic plan outlined by Chairman Hua Kuo-feng at the Fifth National

The Trade Secretary returns today from an eight-day visit to China

Opening doors in Peking



Mr Li Ch'ang (left), Minister of Foreign Trade, and Mr Huang Hua, Minister for Foreign Affairs: "We will adopt many flexible methods of financing... make your proposals bravely."

People's Congress in March this year contains no less than 120 important projects. They include 10 large-scale iron and steel complexes, eight coal mines, 10 oil and gas fields, 30 power stations, six trunk railways and five harbours. One steelworks package ordered from Japan will cost \$US\$4 billion.

This indicates the potential business British industry is now chasing in China. It also underlines the importance I attached to the presence in my party of an impressive cross-section of men who could speak for many sectors of British industry. The doubt about the United Kingdom's capacity to contribute to the modernization of China's obsolescent industries, our ability to design, build and equip new industries, our skills in consultancy and our experience in devising flexible financial arrangements which will help China to finance a programme that will stretch their own resources to the limit.

One key question for my party was how far the Chinese have changed their policy on finance and credit arrangements. Traditionally they have avoided taking credit, although they have occasionally accepted "deferred payments". In recent months, however,

the government has changed this policy. Although they are still to some extent feeling their way, and decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis, they will certainly accept credit. The new pragmatism is summed up in one of those pithy sayings attributed to Teng Hsiao-ping, senior Vice-Premier: "I don't care if the cat is white or black so long as it catches the mouse."

Our host, Mr Li Ch'ang, made it clear what the policy and its limits are: "We will respond to the conditions of international trade that have been developed over hundreds of years. We will adopt many flexible methods of financing except government-to-government loans and joint investment in China. So make your proposals bravely."

As I left Peking to visit Hsiao-nien and Canton, the merchant bankers and the Export Credits Guarantee Department officials with the party were about to have their third meeting with Bank of China officials.

Another key question was that of compensating trading and counter purchase deals. Again, the theme from the Chinese side was flexibility. "We will accept contracts of this kind for our businessmen not the British Government. But if both sides can do a deal—and in a complicated compensation deal three or four parties could be involved—then the British Government certainly has no objection."

A third question, especially for the businessmen making their first visit to China, was how to penetrate beyond the political decision-makers to the technical experts in the trading

organizations so that they could begin to find out precisely what the Chinese want and to explain what they could offer.

Our hosts, the embassy and the old China hands in the party were all invaluable here. Proposals were put on the table at meetings with ministers. The ministers reacted to the proposals they found relevant to their requirements and follow-up meetings were quickly arranged, sometimes within hours.

Inevitably—and this applies to so many countries—the old China hands cautioned patience, persistence, and a fluent interpreter. As one of them explained: "We negotiated for more than a year. But whenever we asked, how many machines they wanted, the answer was always the same: 'Not less than one.' Eventually, only a few days before the contract was signed, the figure was suddenly produced—and it was considerably more than one."

It became clear during the visit, that in addition to those industrial sectors in which we have enjoyed a close relationship—especially mining and aerospace—the Chinese are now interested in a wide range of help in their development plans in iron and steel, power generation, off-shore oil, chemicals and petrochemicals, railways and other industrial infrastructure sectors.

China's economic policy cannot, of course, be separated from their world view and their diplomatic and political strategy. Ministers repeatedly emphasized that, to pursue her goal of economic modernization, China needs peace. No one put this more forcibly than Mr Li Hsien-nien, a Vice-Premier, in a session attended by all the members of my mission.

The motive for the Chinese decision to work with the outside world is, in my view, a hard-headed recognition that this is the best hope for providing China with the social and economic dynamism and the strategic security she needs for survival, let alone prosperity.

China, hard pressed to feed and employ her population: by the year 2000 there may be 300 million more mouths, 300 million more pairs of hands. Vice-Premier Li made the point when he said China was still "backward in its development". China has many needs. Like his colleagues, he was equally frank about their ambition: "We're trying to catch up and overtake you", and about the competition from other countries which want to

cooperate with them on man Mao's "four modernizations"—agriculture, industry, science and technology, defence.

Strategically, therefore, new Chinese policy requires positive response from West. As far as I am concerned this means an aggressive campaign by British industry visit has helped to open doors. There is now a new response from the Chinese side which will lead to much of the business.

My conclusion—and it comes from some of the most experienced of our final decision before we left Peking. The Chinese market, major projects must be predominantly for the companies in a few key areas. Only they can build a base on which the trade can flourish. This could be the Chinese market.

They must be prepared to invest time and money in their senior managers, scientists and technologists, by all the most modern audio-visual aids available sell themselves and their products. This could be the Chinese market. They must be prepared to offer packages in which technical and technical training is an essential part. China needs more men in run advanced technological projects at much efficiency.

They must try to help China develop her own industry. This includes both manufactured products and raw materials. Compensating trading or counter-purchase deals are not the only way doing business in Peking. They can pay for a balance of trade in return to their thinking—they are prepared to be flexible at financing and credit arrangements.

It was the view of the businessmen who accompanied me that this visit was absolutely right. Right in will be an essential element opening up the Chinese market on a substantial scale to British goods and services.

Edmund D. The author is Secretary of State for Trade.

Unravelling the nuclear tangle

Clearly, that is no way to run an industry, but with the benefit of hindsight it is obvious that the NNC carried the seeds of its own destruction within the structure that was imposed on it.

NNC is a three-tier organization. Its shareholders are the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, which has 35 per cent, the General Electric Company, with 30 per cent, and British Nuclear Fuels, which has 35 per cent. The NNC's main task is to manage the construction of new nuclear power stations, which owns the remaining 35 per cent.

GEC has a supervisory management contract with NNC and the work is done by the executive subsidiary, the National Power Company.

Lord Aldington, a deputy chairman of GEC, is chairman of the NNC board and Dr Ned Franklin, a nuclear scientist, is chief executive of the National Power Company.

Without a straightforward line of command, difficulties could have been expected: without a new unifying order from the electricity authorities they must have been made worse.

Before the NNC was set up there were four main consortia. Three were chosen by the electricity authorities to build the second generation of nuclear power stations on the advanced gas-cooled reactor system. Three different con-

sortia produced three different technologies.

Dungeness B, which was ordered in 1966 went to the Atomic Power Company, controlled by Fairclough and International Commodities. It will be 10 years' late and cost £225m more than the original estimate.

The Nuclear Power Group, which included Clarke Chapman and Strathairn and Henshaw, was chosen for Hinkley and Hunterston; and British Nuclear Design and Construction, which included GEC and Babcock & Wilcox, were given Hartlepool and Heysham.

When the National Power Company was formed, the Nuclear Power Group (NTPG) and British Nuclear Design went into it, but the contracts continue to be operated separately.

The Nuclear Power Group, which rented a site from the UKAEA at Risley became NPC (Risley) and British Nuclear Design, which rents a site from GEC at Whetstone, became NPC (Whetstone).

On the face of it the NTPG designs were more successful, although comparisons are invalid, and it is the system which is being developed for the new generation AGRs to be ordered in 1980.

GEC, however, had become convinced that the American-designed pressure water reactor (PWR), not built around the advanced gas-cooled reactor system, was the key to the future and aligned itself strongly with that technology.

Britain flirted with its own development of the Steam Generating Heavy Water Reactor (SGHWR), which was first chosen, then killed.

When the AGR was chosen by the government for the two orders to 1980, with a PWR for order two years' later, GEC's management contract no longer made sense.

The contract expired at the end of last year and is being carried on month by month, but GEC wants to relinquish it.

British Nuclear Associates, which has had no rights either to votes or seats on the National Nuclear Corporation board, sees the solution to the problem as a normal by-product of the restructuring of the company without any immediate change in shareholdings.

But movements towards a new structure have been painfully slow. Lord Aldington has been producing a report, but has become bogged down in defining the NNC's role.

That is far from easy. The National Power Company has been doing design work on the two AGRs, but has the AGR as its main research centre and the UKAEA at its site at Risley.

For fossil-fired stations the CEGB acts as the main contractor itself, subcontracting to the main plant manufacturers. For the AGR nuclear stations, that job has been done by NPC. But there are inevitable problems in deciding where responsibility should begin and where it should end.

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The Central Electricity Generating Board has wanted to know with whom it was going to deal before deciding how the contracts are to be placed. Lord Aldington has wanted the role settled before the shareholdings.

Immense complications have been added by the failure to agree a merger of the boiler-making interests of Clarke Chapman and Babcock & Wilcox. Mr Clarke Chapman has the preferred AGR technology, but its 1,200 workforce at its Gateshead works compares with 3,500 at the Renfrew plant of Babcock & Wilcox.

Clarke Chapman could have expected the work for the oil-fired Ince Point station but

it has been cancelled. It has 12 shift months of work, charity and a price of £13m of Drax work which it must keep going.

The position is little better on the turbine side, where merger between CEGB's unit at A. Parsons, which Mr Clarke Chapman, now part of Northern Engineering Industries, fell through.

If these contractors' direct shares in the National Nuclear Corporation with seats on the board and vote, will vote for themselves or at independent board members?

Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, sees the solution in 51 per cent government control. Presumably this would involve the National Enterprise Board taking the UKAEA, which is a subsidiary of CEGB, and British Nuclear Associates, members, neither are likely to be but legislation, which is only alternative, would take a long time.

A solution is needed quickly because the plant manufacturers, and Clarke Chapman particularly, need the AGR work on the shopfloor as soon as possible. Clarke Chapman believes that a can-do, do AGR contracts and should be contract to Babcock & Wilcox. So horse trading is going on.

Ordering of a PWR in 1980 could start it all over again. A PWR will need a public inquiry and that could hold the order and cause another plant manufacturer's crisis.

Some decisions are needed. Nicholas Hurn

This article appeared in the first edition of Friday August 11.

Business Diary in Europe: Duty-free allowance under threat

The saga of the Aquamart, the floating supermarket, could put an end to all duty-free sales to travellers between EEC countries and Dunkirk, the main port of the British-owned Cruise Line, carry out their threat to take the Belgian Government to the European Court of Justice.

On July 24, the ship began a daily cruise service between Ostend and Dunkirk, the main port for the 800 continental passengers on board being the opportunity to buy a wide range of duty-free British goods.

However, when the passengers disembarked at Ostend, they were met by teams of Belgian customs officers who slapped on punitive rates of tax on everything bought on board bringing the prices above those charged for equivalent goods in Belgian shops.

Within 10 days, the flow of customers lining up to sail on the good ship Aquamart had declined to a trickle, and the company, amid a great show of outraged innocence, decided to cut its losses and close the service.

Despite the company's cries of "foul", and threat of legal action (about which it seems to be having some second thoughts), it appears that the Belgian customs authorities were perfectly within their rights in acting as they did.

EC law prohibits all tax-free purchases within the Community. Traditionally, however, tax authorities have exercised a certain discretion, allowing bona fide travellers to bring in goods up to a value of £50 providing normal taxes have been paid in the country where the goods were purchased.

Whether or not duty-free

sales on cross-Channel ferries or airports meet this requirement is far from clear. If the Aquamart people push the argument that because one lot of passengers is breaking the law, they should be allowed to as well, the most likely outcome is a ban on all duty-free sales.

A poster went up in France following the Amoco Cadiz disaster showing an oil covered bird which at a distance looked like a map of Brittany.

It was an appeal for funds to help clear up the mess. Before long most of the posters, at least those put up in the Paris Metro, attracted the graffiti writers. "Who says France hasn't got any oil", they scrawled.

Well, Elf Aquitaine seems to be taking the graffiti seriously. Last week it announced that it is to drill for oil off the Brittany coast. The exploratory hole will be drilled at the edge of the continental shelf some 60 miles from Finistère.

So far three exploratory holes have been sunk off the Brittany coast but with only a slight trace of oil found. Nevertheless, it has been enough for the company to consider it worth making further soundings.

Should there be positive it will mean that France will have to devise new navigation channels around an oil well in one of the busiest tanker routes in the world.

Meanwhile, there are those in Brittany who say bitterly that the oil companies could do worse than sink the drill into the beaches off northern Finistère where at a depth of only a few feet they can be certain of finding very positive traces of oil—from the Amoco Cadiz.



"Our latest statistics show that of foreign shoplifters in London those from the EEC now exceed those from Opec."

Doctors at Spain's social security hospitals are threatening another strike: so are municipal policemen. Taxi drivers are on strike in some cities, and other towns have had to endure long public transport strikes. Spaniards are even getting blasé about postal delays, hotel strikes and the French air controllers' work-to-rule.

But there is one threatened work stoppage which has thrown the nation into a tizzy, and has two ministries—the ministries of labour and culture—looking for a solution.

That is the "industrial action" threatened by Spain's professional football players, who say they will not play the opening games of the Spanish league next September unless their demands are met.

the lot of the leaders in the race for football fame.

The players are demanding the elimination of a standard clause in their contracts which gives the club which hires them an option to renew even if they have a better offer; the abolition of the age limit for playing in the third division; prompt payments of salaries (some clubs, particularly smaller ones, are in arrears on contract payments); and a percentage of the sale price for any player who is sold by one club to another.

Among the footballers waiting to collect overdue pay cheques is Dutch star Johan Cruyff. He wants the Barcelona Football Club to pay him £12 per cent interest on the £192,000 which the club still owes him.

Barcelona Bank appears to have neither won friends nor influence with people with an advertisement which went out on local radio and Radio Luxembourg. Part of a campaign to encourage school leavers to open deposit accounts with the bank, Barcelona Bank has been backed by regular saving habits. But by comparing a holiday in Spain, at the top end of the scale, with two weeks' off-season camping in Wales, at the other, the bank opened Pandora's box.

Enter the Welsh Tourist Board, who took exception to the nastiness cast on the principality and complained through the IBA. So too did the Campaign for Wales Association. Exit the ad.

Although the Spanish Football Players' Association claims to be looking after the rights of all players including those in the poorly paid third division, the association's demands seem to be oriented toward bettering

Ross Davies

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Nationalized industry 'profits'

P. N. Dean
How much money should a nationalized industry make? The Central Electricity Generating Board has stepped in an extra charge for supplementary depreciation equivalent to 40 per cent of historic cost depreciation on the feeble grounds that this is the rate allowed in calculating net margins under the price code. After allowing for this new charge, profits are down from £129.6m last year to a "modest" £18.7m this year.

Such anomalies are the tip of an iceberg of incoherence. The accounts of nationalized industries are governed by no single principle. Their definitions of profit are widely divergent. The accounting terms they use have no common meaning. Last year's modest profit from the National Coal Board of £20m for instance was struck after £75m of government grants had been credited to profit and loss account and did not take account of £17.6m paid direct by the Government to the Redundant Mineworkers' Payments Scheme.

Similarly, British Rail's surplus of £31m, was achieved only after a separate item of public subsidy totalling over £500m. At issue is not the principle of public subsidy in necessary cases but its treatment in striking figures of profit. It is a loss—indeed, the meaning of the words profit and loss.

king at metrication from right angle

the Director of the Iron Board
In her letter *Wrong on the right angle* (17 July 1978) Mrs Jennifer Wignall notes some further points. I am sure that a scientific and industrial revolution will tell her, but I do not mean a great deal more than expressing a kilogramme and a length in metres. It does not express an angular size in degrees. Indeed, in a similar and best selling book (HMSO 50p) we are told that the metric system is the one used in the world of the 100 second is a joke which has been around since the world was young. It is a case for change. The field of international communication is made by communications and

During the same financial period the gas and electricity industries were peddling in the opposite direction: striving hard to reduce profits by increasing depreciation accounting policies. Thus the financial results of nationalized industries are primarily what their boards of management wish them to be. The modest profits of British Rail and the National Coal Board were in any normal financial language massive losses. The latter, but still modest, published profits of the gas and electricity industries were in fact massive profits.

We must thank Sir Derek for posing the interesting question as to what level of profit a nationalized industry should make. A partial answer appears in three Government White Papers issued since 1961 with whose contents he is no doubt familiar. We should be even more grateful, however, if he and the chairmen of the other nationalized industries would tell us unambiguously and without discretion the answer to a far simpler question: what profits are nationalized industries in fact making? Yours faithfully, PETER N. DEAN, Lecturer, Department of Accountancy and Finance, Heriot-Watt University, 21-23 Chambers, Edinburgh EH1 2HT, August 8.

Flat roofs

From Mr A. W. Wren
Sir, Considering the amount of rain we receive in this country, it is surprising how difficult we seem to find it to build otherwise flat roofs that are sufficiently tilted to throw off rain water.

In the weather sheets of stagnant water lie on most of the flat roofs of high-level commuter trains in and out of London. And often the water is deep enough to persist through even the longest of dry spells.

What goes wrong? Did some paranoiac water conservationist write the derivative work on flat roof construction for the average builder, or did the hapless printer perhaps misprint the minimum angle of pitch and no one has noticed it?

Perhaps the average British builder, his youth misspent in an assessment of pin-tailed saloons, is fearful lest the admonishing "tilt" should appear in the sky above him, should he stray too far from the straight and level.

A. W. WREN, Graylands, 35 Genghili, Guildford, Surrey GU1 1NF, August 8.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Investors' confidence justified as De Beers raise diamond rates

When De Beers announced last Tuesday that diamond prices would be going up by 30 per cent at the next "sight" sale on August 21, nearly everyone was caught on the hop. It had been widely expected that an increase was inevitable, but conventional wisdom held that it would be both smaller and later. Still, even as analysts were reaching for the calculator, the market was not slow to see higher earnings and the shares leapt 24p to 425p on Tuesday, bounded on another 24p the day after, and on Friday closed at 453p, up 50p.

Behind all the excitement, however, lie some very tricky problems for De Beers, and its marketing arm, the Central Selling Organisation. For nine months the cartel has been fighting to maintain its monopoly. Like all monopolies, De Beers has to set prices without the benefit of competitive demand. But unlike other monopolies, its product has an international appeal and is subject to speculative interest which makes pricing even harder.

These complications are at the heart of De Beers' difficulties. When speculative interest and hoarding became acute at the end of last year, and the beginning of this, the company was forced to resort to every device at its command. It was

stressed to banks that the inflated prices against which dealers were borrowing to buy stones could not be justified. Dealers were simply not offered the stones they wanted; and in due course a series of surcharges was imposed at sight on De Beers' stocks in the cutting centres.

From the point of view of retaining control of the market, the policy was successful. Surcharges added up to 30 per cent of the price of the CSO's sales in the first half of this year to a record of £1063.5m (£633m).

Mining

More important, since the first half of 1976, there has been a steady decline in the rate at which CSO sales revenue has increased.

The trend looks even more disturbing if it is projected on the assumption of a price increase in the current half less than the announced 30 per cent. A 10 per cent rise might have brought sales of £880m, just 2 per cent more than in the same half of 1977, instead of the 16 per cent improvement now forecast.

So far as revenue is concerned, therefore, De Beers has

Analyst foresees prices outpacing pay increases

Now that the consumer boom is in full swing some brokers think little of it. One is Phillips & Drew. Mr Bill Seward has just written the latest survey of household goods and he says that "the upturn has been slower to appear, weaker and less widespread than had been generally expected."

Mr Seward foresees demand continuing to grow into the first half of next year. But as the months pass Mr Seward sees consumer prices outstripping wage increases. The discretionary nature of the durables sectors suggests that they will be among the first casualties.

Stock markets will not, however, be dominated by Hoover in the next week or so. If it is to be influenced by any one concern, it will be by Imperial Chemical Industries.

It has come duly under the scrutiny of Mr Peter Carrington, brother of William de Broe Hill Chaplin.

He reminds us that the oil crisis dealt chemical industry a hard knock and the picture is still for sluggish profits. His forecast for 1978 pre-tax profits of £495m on sales of £4,710m against 1977 profits of £456m on sales of £4,283m. For the seasonally strong second quarter whose figures are coming up he estimates profits at £144m.

For 1979, too, the forecast is for a further modest advance but for 1980 Mr Carrington holds out a renewed surge in world trade and economic activity.

Brokers' views

By contrast, furniture is picking up after its recession and it should do better next year. Costs are reasonably steady and price increases are coming. Christie-Tyler is rated a buy along with Parker-Knoll.

The analyst does not recommend buying (or selling) any of the carpet or houseware companies he covers. But he advises us to buy Valor in domestic appliances, as Hoover recently reported poor profits and Mr Seward makes it a sell.

In this opinion he is joined by Mr Patrick Hickey and Mr John Tysoe of Rokeby Laurie, Milbank. In the broker's latest monthly estimates, they describe the recent profits as disappointing, and think that

Michael Prest

Weekly list of fixed interest stocks

Stock	Price	Dividend	Yield
Albion 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Anglo 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Bank of Ireland 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Barclays Bank 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
British Bank 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
City of London 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Commercial Union 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Edinburgh 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
First National 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Foreign & Colonial 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Gloucester 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
London & Lancashire 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
London & West 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Manchester 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Midland 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
North British 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
North Eastern 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
North London 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
North Western 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Oversea-Chart 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Paragon 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Portland 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Reading 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
South Eastern 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
South Western 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Stock Exchange 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Traffic 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Union Bank 7 1/2	67	5	7.46
Windsor 7 1/2	67	5	7.46

MANAGEMENT

Taking heart from charity returns

Individual returns published by the British Heart Foundation on top of the 1977 increase in revenue of 19 per cent, a little better than that there may be for commercial business in the charity sector.

Charity organizations are in a difficult position. In the last year the Queen's Jubilee Appeal competition for individual donations, made from industry by the recession, British Heart Foundation per cent rise in income of 22.5m is particularly impressive. Unlike Oxford it has a chain of shops; not, unlike other charities, does it have personal legacies or corporations.

Moreover, the gain in virtually no increase in administration expenses. In the ratio of expenditure to income over the year fell 7 per cent to 13.5 per cent.

Published in 1961 and initially by business men, the foundation has years raised increasingly cell structure of 17 offices to raise funds. Each regional level is staffed by a salaried person who in turn is responsible for the local voluntary staff. There are about 100 volunteers throughout the country.

Regional organizations, typical annual salaries between £3,000 to £4,000, vary in age and back from young housewives to retired professionals. The regional and their satellite complex directly generated 3 towards the foundation last year, or approximately a third of the total.

However, as well as raising funds from a wide variety of events (including sponsored "kitts" and prize races, as well as the more conventional fund-raising events like the annual sales and collections) the foundation also has a public relations campaign. They are seen by the foundation as probably the area in which its greatest fund-raising potential lies and the aim is to double the numbers over the next few years.

Like most charities and unlike many businesses, the director general has no problem in motivating staff. To gauge progress he keeps a close watch on the performance of other charities.

Corporate donations, which formed the original base for the foundation's finances, have been steadily declining. Although the previous downward slide was reversed last year, the total was only £108,466. The problem, faced by other charities as well, is that many companies are not renewing their seven-year covenants and it is difficult to recruit new subscribers.

The need for publicity is a dilemma faced by all charities which rely on large numbers of individual donations. Straightforward advertising is expensive, its returns are uncertain and it can lead to adverse criticism from donors.

While the foundation now concentrates on advertisements in the classified columns of newspapers (mainly to encourage legacy and memorial donations) rather than on display advertisements, Brigadier Thursty Pelham, who took over as the foundation's director general two years ago, prefers other, even less costly forms of publicity.

An important new form of publicity which is more than self-financing has been the foundation's special events. A small department set up initially to run a foundation day at Ascot last year has been retained to coordinate a variety of sponsored national events.

Probably the best known of these is the sponsored alighting

charity organizers, is in channelling the enthusiasm so that it is used to best advantage. Brigadier Thursty Pelham's task is helped by the small number involved: the foundation has about 60 full-time employees. Communication is frequent, informal and immediate at the London headquarters and, apart from bi-annual formal meetings, regular contact is maintained with the regional organizers.

On the expenditure side the brigadier relies on the decisions of four expert committees. The foundation funds research through professional risks, post-graduate education and the provision of cardiac care equipment for hospitals.

To gauge progress Brigadier Thursty Pelham keeps a close watch on the performance of other charities, even though, since each tends to be organized differently, direct comparisons are difficult. He scrutinizes his expense-to-income ratio, which he regards as a barometer of efficiency, particularly closely and finds the present figure of 13.7 per cent encouraging.

Despite this recent success, however, the foundation is far from complacent. The brigadier points out that in 1976-77 the cancer research charities raised some £16.8m between them against the foundation's (it is the only heart research charity) £1.4m. "This seems to me disproportionate when you consider that cardiovascular diseases account for 32 per cent of all deaths and that cancer accounts for 21 per cent," he said.

"We should, on the basis of need alone, put in more than twice the amount raised by the four cancer research charities."

Patricia Tisdall

The Times Euromarkets and Foreign Bond quarterly

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The Times now publishes this long-overdue document. Up until now, no quarterly has had sections covering international bonds, foreign bonds and medium-term credits. In depth.

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Of course, there'll always be items cropping up in each section which will merit special coverage. And the publication is rounded off with a supplement of tombstone advertisements which have appeared in The Times.

An annual subscription is only £80 in the UK, £85 in Europe and £90 elsewhere. The first issue available to subscribers, covering April to June, 1978, will be mailed shortly.

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Avoiding the pitfalls of European mergers

This route too, has many pitfalls. Most obvious is the language barrier and the problem of communication. More difficult still is the comprehension of local trading practices and the regulations under which the continental company operates.

Finally there is the question of accountancy. Published accounts on the Continent, especially in Latin countries, bear little resemblance to their British counterparts, and without the right kind of guidance it can be difficult for a would-be British bidder to understand precisely what condition his potential partner's business is in.

Avoiding all these pitfalls is no easy matter. Embassies and local banks can provide some advice and assistance, but it is not their function to do the kind of thorough assessment

that the cautious British businessman may want. Nor are merchant banks really equipped for the job.

It was to fill this gap that Lionel Barras, a former London insurance man, set up Compagnie Européenne Pour le Développement Industriel et Financier (CEOIF) in Brussels seven years ago. Its function is to smooth the way for intra-European cross-frontier mergers.

CEOIF does not provide finance and operates only for a fee. It will provide a clear with an initial survey of the industry into which he wants to move and, depending on his needs, will draft a short list of companies within the industry that might make suitable merger material.

Thereafter CEOIF will make exploratory approaches to the

Christopher Wilkins

Unit Trust Prices—change on the week FT Index change on week 514.8 +17.6 (3.5%)[illegible]

Stock Exchange Prices Capitalization and week's change

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began, Aug. 7. Dealings end, Aug. 18. Contango day, Aug. 21. Settlement day, Aug. 30
 \$ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days
 (Current market price multiplied by the number of shares in issue for the stock quoted)

H FUNDS									
Stock	Price	Change	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th
First	10.10	0.05	10.05	10.00	9.95	9.90	9.85	9.80	9.75
Second	10.05	0.05	10.00	9.95	9.90	9.85	9.80	9.75	9.70
Third	10.00	0.05	9.95	9.90	9.85	9.80	9.75	9.70	9.65
Fourth	9.95	0.05	9.90	9.85	9.80	9.75	9.70	9.65	9.60
Fifth	9.90	0.05	9.85	9.80	9.75	9.70	9.65	9.60	9.55
Sixth	9.85	0.05	9.80	9.75	9.70	9.65	9.60	9.55	9.50
Seventh	9.80	0.05	9.75	9.70	9.65	9.60	9.55	9.50	9.45
Eighth	9.75	0.05	9.70	9.65	9.60	9.55	9.50	9.45	9.40
Ninth	9.70	0.05	9.65	9.60	9.55	9.50	9.45	9.40	9.35
Tenth	9.65	0.05	9.60	9.55	9.50	9.45	9.40	9.35	9.30
Eleventh	9.60	0.05	9.55	9.50	9.45	9.40	9.35	9.30	9.25
Twelfth	9.55	0.05	9.50	9.45	9.40	9.35	9.30	9.25	9.20
Thirteenth	9.50	0.05	9.45	9.40	9.35	9.30	9.25	9.20	9.15
Fourteenth	9.45	0.05	9.40	9.35	9.30	9.25	9.20	9.15	9.10
Fifteenth	9.40	0.05	9.35	9.30	9.25	9.20	9.15	9.10	9.05
Sixteenth	9.35	0.05	9.30	9.25	9.20	9.15	9.10	9.05	9.00
Seventeenth	9.30	0.05	9.25	9.20	9.15	9.10	9.05	9.00	8.95
Eighteenth	9.25	0.05	9.20	9.15	9.10	9.05	9.00	8.95	8.90
Nineteenth	9.20	0.05	9.15	9.10	9.05	9.00	8.95	8.90	8.85
Twentieth	9.15	0.05	9.10	9.05	9.00	8.95	8.90	8.85	8.80
Twenty-first	9.10	0.05	9.05	9.00	8.95	8.90	8.85	8.80	8.75
Twenty-second	9.05	0.05	9.00	8.95	8.90	8.85	8.80	8.75	8.70
Twenty-third	9.00	0.05	8.95	8.90	8.85	8.80	8.75	8.70	8.65
Twenty-fourth	8.95	0.05	8.90	8.85	8.80	8.75	8.70	8.65	8.60
Twenty-fifth	8.90	0.05	8.85	8.80	8.75	8.70	8.65	8.60	8.55
Twenty-sixth	8.85	0.05	8.80	8.75	8.70	8.65	8.60	8.55	8.50
Twenty-seventh	8.80	0.05	8.75	8.70	8.65	8.60	8.55	8.50	8.45
Twenty-eighth	8.75	0.05	8.70	8.65	8.60	8.55	8.50	8.45	8.40
Twenty-ninth	8.70	0.05	8.65	8.60	8.55	8.50	8.45	8.40	8.35
Thirtieth	8.65	0.05	8.60	8.55	8.50	8.45	8.40	8.35	8.30
Thirty-first	8.60	0.05	8.55	8.50	8.45	8.40	8.35	8.30	8.25
Thirty-second	8.55	0.05	8.50	8.45	8.40	8.35	8.30	8.25	8.20
Thirty-third	8.50	0.05	8.45	8.40	8.35	8.30	8.25	8.20	8.15
Thirty-fourth	8.45	0.05	8.40	8.35	8.30	8.25	8.20	8.15	8.10
Thirty-fifth	8.40	0.05	8.35	8.30	8.25	8.20	8.15	8.10	8.05
Thirty-sixth	8.35	0.05	8.30	8.25	8.20	8.15	8.10	8.05	8.00
Thirty-seventh	8.30	0.05	8.25	8.20	8.15	8.10	8.05	8.00	7.95
Thirty-eighth	8.25	0.05	8.20	8.15	8.10	8.05	8.00	7.95	7.90
Thirty-ninth	8.20	0.05	8.15	8.10	8.05	8.00	7.95	7.90	7.85
Fortieth	8.15	0.05	8.10	8.05	8.00	7.95	7.90	7.85	7.80
Forty-first	8.10	0.05	8.05	8.00	7.95	7.90	7.85	7.80	7.75
Forty-second	8.05	0.05	8.00	7.95	7.90	7.85	7.80	7.75	7.70
Forty-third	8.00	0.05	7.95	7.90	7.85	7.80	7.75	7.70	7.65
Forty-fourth	7.95	0.05	7.90	7.85	7.80	7.75	7.70	7.65	7.60
Forty-fifth	7.90	0.05	7.85	7.80	7.75	7.70	7.65	7.60	7.55
Forty-sixth	7.85	0.05	7.80	7.75	7.70	7.65	7.60	7.55	7.50
Forty-seventh	7.80	0.05	7.75	7.70	7.65	7.60	7.55	7.50	7.45
Forty-eighth	7.75	0.05	7.70	7.65	7.60	7.55	7.50	7.45	7.40
Forty-ninth	7.70	0.05	7.65	7.60	7.55	7.50	7.45	7.40	7.35
Fiftieth	7.65	0.05	7.60	7.55	7.50	7.45	7.40	7.35	7.30
Fifty-first	7.60	0.05	7.55	7.50	7.45	7.40	7.35	7.30	7.25
Fifty-second	7.55	0.05	7.50	7.45	7.40	7.35	7.30	7.25	7.20
Fifty-third	7.50	0.05	7.45	7.40	7.35	7.30	7.25	7.20	7.15
Fifty-fourth	7.45	0.05	7.40	7.35	7.30	7.25	7.20	7.15	7.10
Fifty-fifth	7.40	0.05	7.35	7.30	7.25	7.20	7.15	7.10	7.05
Fifty-sixth	7.35	0.05	7.30	7.25	7.20	7.15	7.10	7.05	7.00
Fifty-seventh	7.30	0.05	7.25	7.20	7.15	7.10	7.05	7.00	6.95
Fifty-eighth	7.25	0.05	7.20	7.15	7.10	7.05	7.00	6.95	6.90
Fifty-ninth	7.20	0.05	7.15	7.10	7.05	7.00	6.95	6.90	6.85
Sixtieth	7.15	0.05	7.10	7.05	7.00	6.95	6.90	6.85	6.80
Sixty-first	7.10	0.05	7.05	7.00	6.95	6.90	6.85	6.80	6.75
Sixty-second	7.05	0.05	7.00	6.95	6.90	6.85	6.80	6.75	6.70
Sixty-third	7.00	0.05	6.95	6.90	6.85	6.80	6.75	6.70	6.65
Sixty-fourth	6.95	0.05	6.90	6.85	6.80	6.75	6.70	6.65	6.60
Sixty-fifth	6.90	0.05	6.85	6.80	6.75	6.70	6.65	6.60	6.55
Sixty-sixth	6.85	0.05	6.80	6.75	6.70	6.65	6.60	6.55	6.50
Sixty-seventh	6.80	0.05	6.75	6.70	6.65	6.60	6.55	6.50	6.45
Sixty-eighth	6.75	0.05	6.70	6.65	6.60	6.55	6.50	6.45	6.40
Sixty-ninth	6.70	0.05	6.65	6.60	6.55	6.50	6.45	6.40	6.35
Seventieth	6.65	0.05	6.60	6.55	6.50	6.45	6.40	6.35	6.30
Seventy-first	6.60	0.05	6.55	6.50	6.45	6.40	6.35	6.30	6.25
Seventy-second	6.55	0.05	6.50	6.45	6.40	6.35	6.30	6.25	6.20
Seventy-third	6.50	0.05	6.45	6.40	6.35	6.30	6.25	6.20	6.15
Seventy-fourth	6.45	0.05	6.40	6.35	6.30	6.25	6.20	6.15	6.10
Seventy-fifth	6.40	0.05	6.35	6.30	6.25	6.20	6.15	6.10	6.05
Seventy-sixth	6.35	0.05	6.30	6.25	6.20	6.15	6.10	6.05	6.00
Seventy-seventh	6.30	0.05	6.25	6.20	6.15	6.10	6.05	6.00	5.95
Seventy-eighth	6.25	0.05	6.20	6.15	6.10	6.05	6.00	5.95	5.90
Seventy-ninth	6.20	0.05	6.15	6.10	6.05	6.00	5.95	5.90	5.85
Eightieth	6.15	0.05	6.10	6.05	6.00	5.95	5.90	5.85	5.80
Eighty-first	6.10	0.05	6.05	6.00	5.95	5.90	5.85	5.80	5.75
Eighty-second	6.05	0.05	6.00	5.95	5.90	5.85	5.80	5.75	5.70
Eighty-third	6.00	0.05	5.95	5.90	5.85	5.80	5.75	5.70	5.65
Eighty-fourth	5.95	0.05	5.90	5.85	5.80	5.75	5.70	5.65	5.60
Eighty-fifth	5.90	0.05	5.85	5.80	5.75	5.70	5.65	5.60	5.55
Eighty-sixth	5.85	0.05	5.80	5.75	5.70	5.65	5.60	5.55	5.5

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PLEASE CHECK your AD. We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Each one is carefully checked and proof read. When thousands of advertisements are handled each day mistakes do occur and we ask therefore that you check your ad and, if you spot an error, report it to The Classified Department immediately by telephoning 01-837 1234 (Ext 7180). We regret that we cannot be responsible for more than one day's incorrect insertion if you do not.

Who so greets the dawn, comment shall fall to him and a woman's heart judgment."

—Aeschylus 8.5.

BIRTHS

ALLEN—On August 11th, to Helen and Philip, a son, Nicholas.

ENGEL-COOPER—On August 7th, to the John and Margaret, a son, Michael.

FRANK—On August 10th, to Sarah and David, a son, David.

GRAMAN—On August 10th, to the John and Margaret, a son, Michael.

GRUBLEY—On August 10th, to the John and Margaret, a son, Michael.

MARTIN-FISHER—On August 10th, to the John and Margaret, a son, Michael.

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MARTIN-FISHER—On August 10th, to the John and Margaret, a son, Michael.

MARTIN-FISHER—On August 10th, to the John and Margaret, a son, Michael.

MARTIN-FISHER—On August 10th, to the John and Margaret, a son, Michael.

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MARTIN-FISHER—On August 10th, to the John and Margaret, a son, Michael.

MARTIN-FISHER—On August 10th, to the John and Margaret, a son, Michael.

BIRTHS

WELLS—On August 13th, at St. Mary's, a son, Michael.

WELLS—On August 13th, at St. Mary's, a son, Michael.

WELLS—On August 13th, at St. Mary's, a son, Michael.

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DEATHS

WELLS—On August 13th, at St. Mary's, a son, Michael.

WELLS—On August 13th, at St. Mary's, a son, Michael.

WELLS—On August 13th, at St. Mary's, a son, Michael.

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